

EVERYTHING I NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT

COMPRESSED AIR CARS

I LEARNED FROM *HEM AND AMY*

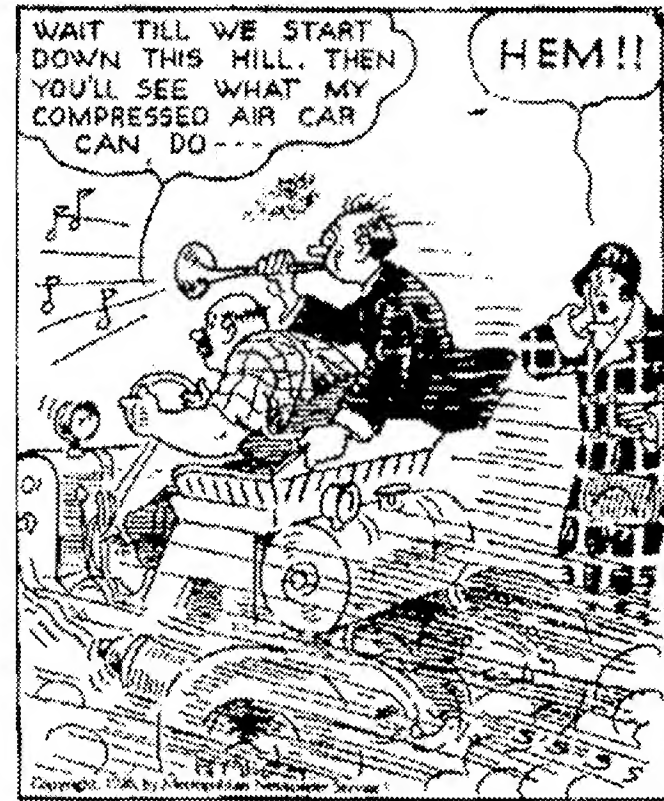
...also known as...

GAS BUGGIES

1926 – 1927

by Frank Hemensley Beck

Look Out, Amy!



Having Fun at the Expense of Air Car Inventors

A daily cartoon strip about an inventor who wants to get rich with an air car? About a self-fueling air car with a self-filling air tank? Who would think of such a thing, and why 1927?

The social and technological environment that Frank Beck wrote for was ripe for this sort of thing. Technology was exploding and everyone wanted to be the next Edison or Bell. Cars were suddenly everywhere so naturally the common complaint became the cost of paying for their fuel and upkeep. Back East especially, and most especially in the oil and coal fields of western Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia, trains were everywhere and everyone knew a brakeman or lived next door to one. Compressed air was essential to both hauling coal in mines and stopping big trains; without compressed air, the technological blossoming of the late 1920s would not have happened in the way that it did.

Frank Hemensley Beck lived in Tacoma, Washington and so did the cartoon character “Hem” that he named after himself. Hem’s creator was a perceptive individual and the appeal of his comics is that he saw all sides of things and made fun of literally everyone. The fact that he appears to be scolding his poor namesake daily for wanting to build self-fueling air cars doesn’t mean that he necessarily was belittling the idea or the many inventors who were trying to make it work back then. I don’t know but my guess is that Hem’s creator was sympathetic with his character’s cause—why else would he have given him his name? And cartoonist Frank H. Beck’s own foibles might have found their way into his character’s feisty, impractical and grandiose temperament. I am only guessing as I have not been to the library where his papers are stored to read his correspondence. I don’t know what Beck was like except that he was a stable family man.

I do know that the oil and gas industry was not interested in competition; it goes without saying. And we know that Frank Beck was aware that censorship could happen to him (and that could threaten his financial stability). I believe that he carefully crafted his 12-month focus on self-filling air tanks to appear as if he were ridiculing the whole idea and anyone who would try it, in order to avoid trouble from the powers that were becoming. At the same time I can guarantee you that every wanna-be air car inventor in America in 1926 and 1927 turned to the funny pages first when the paper arrived each day, to see what their hero Hem was up to next. Especially the father of the self-fueling air car, the elderly Louis Kiser of Decatur, Illinois, must have looked forward to the daily goading from a cartoon strip that he probably both loved and hated. The boy who delivered his Decatur Herald must have gotten an earful or two. I can hear it now: “Did I tell you I was the inventor of the New York Air Brake…”

My biased opinion is that Frank Beck *wanted* to motivate inventors to try harder and come up with something that could compete against the noisy, dirty, gas-gulping money eaters that were filling the landscape and becoming the be-all and end-all of modern life. He had to frame it as a hearty teasing of a die-hard dreamer to avoid being edited off the page, but I can only gauge his intentions by the effect that Hem & Amy’s exploits have on me: despite Hem’s many goofs and delusions, his good intentions make me want to get out in the garage and try again. Like all good humorists, Frank Beck knew a lot about human nature, and he knew what it was like to be a grandiose, temperamental dreamer or he could not have written so accurately about one.

Where he got this information I haven’t got a clue; but if he was writing about himself then I can only guess, based on my own experience of reading this comic strip, that he was writing about me and you too.

Mr. Aircar

Wanna-be airhead since 1969

October 22, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Look Out, Amy!

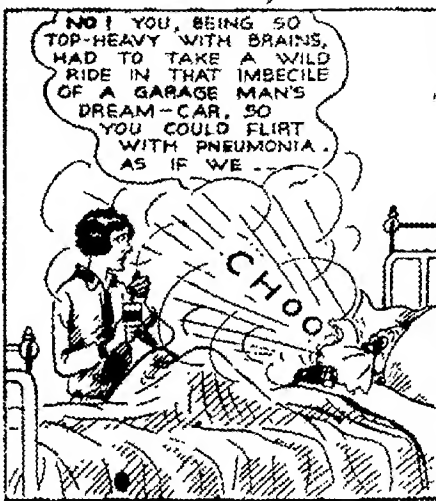
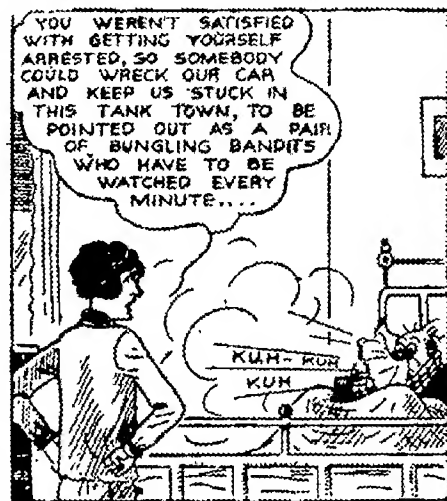


October 23, 1926
Daily Northwestern

GAS BUGGIES—Look Out, Amy!

(Copyright, 1926, by Metropolitan Newspaper Syndicate)

By BECK



October 25, 1926
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Hem Is Ill

BY BECK



October 26, 1926
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Sweet Dreams

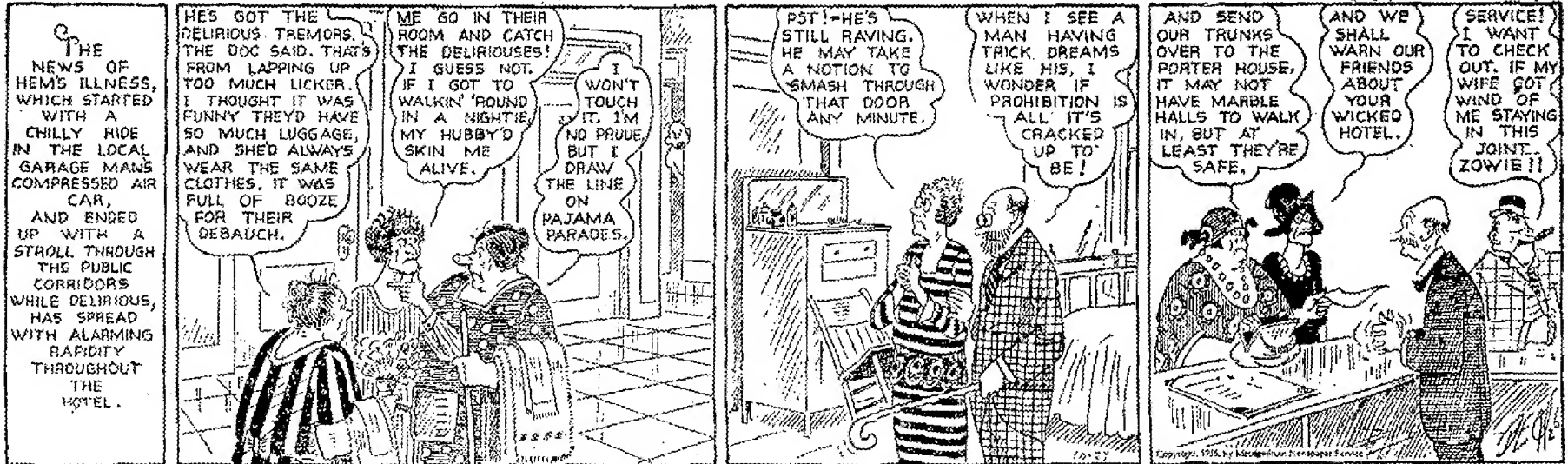
BY BECK



October 27, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

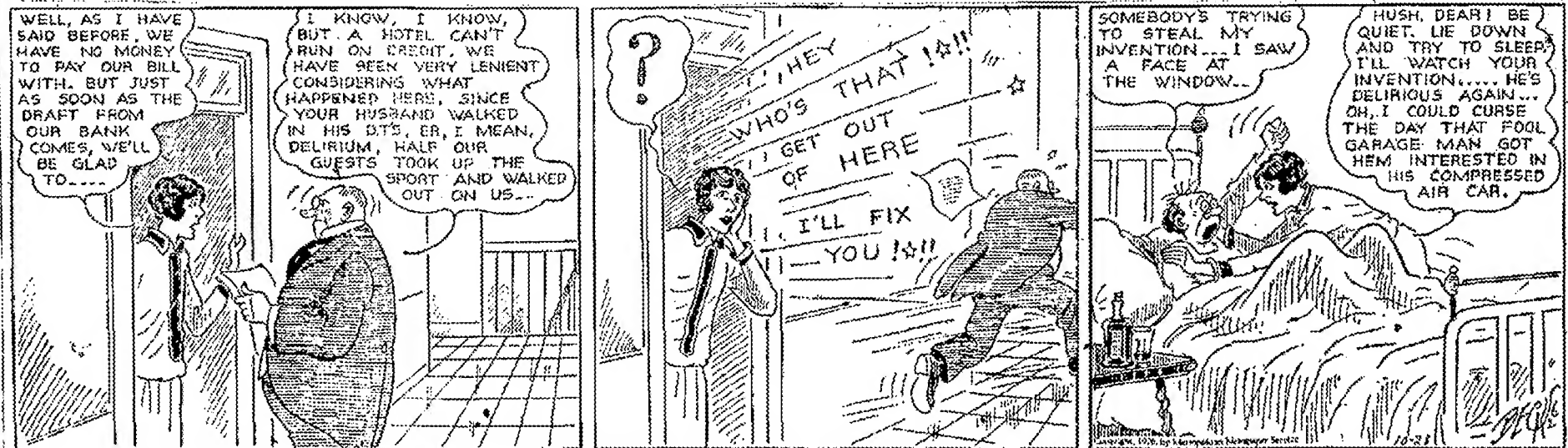
Sympathy



October 28, 1926
Evening Gazette

GAS BUGGIES—It's An Ill Wind.

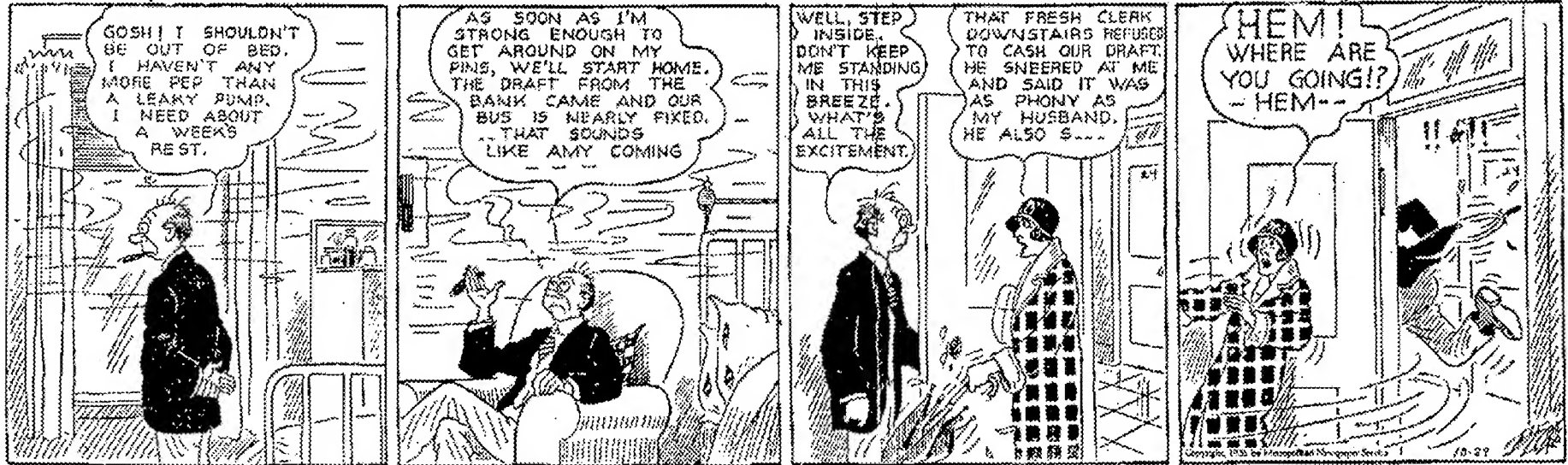
By Beck



October 29, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

The Right Cure



October 30, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

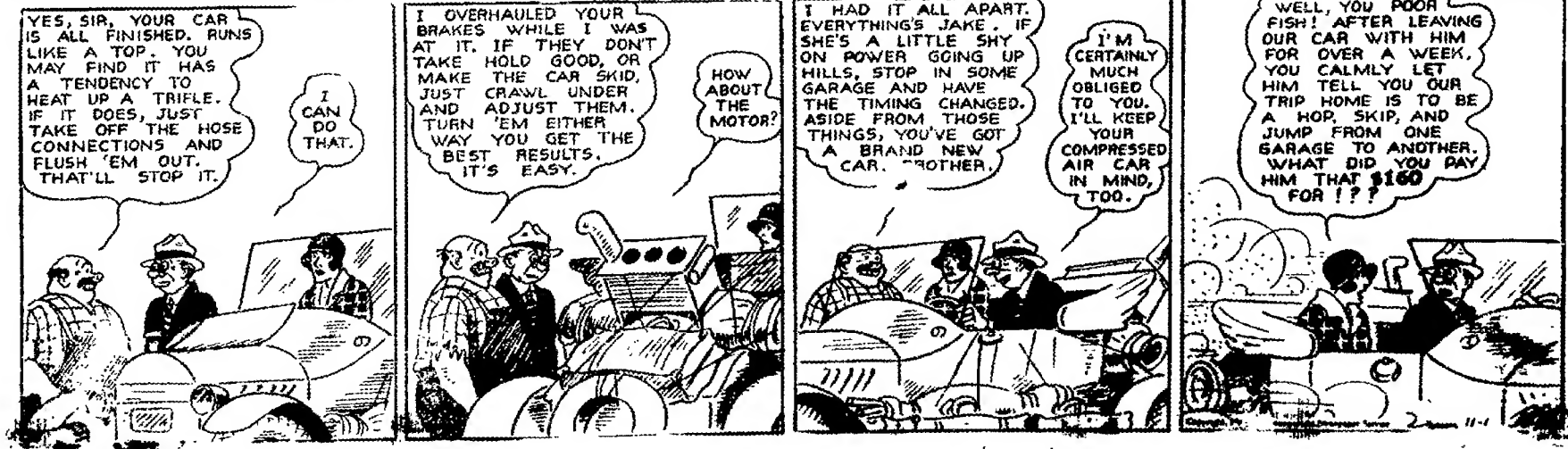


November 1, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

The Big If

BY BECK

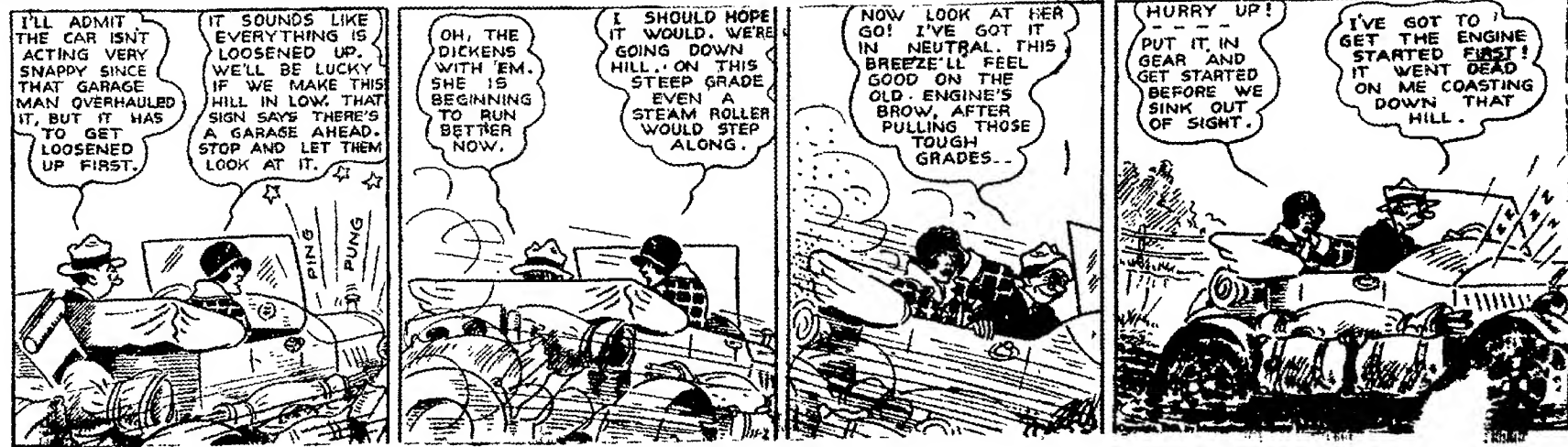


November 2, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

A Stitch In Time

BY BECK

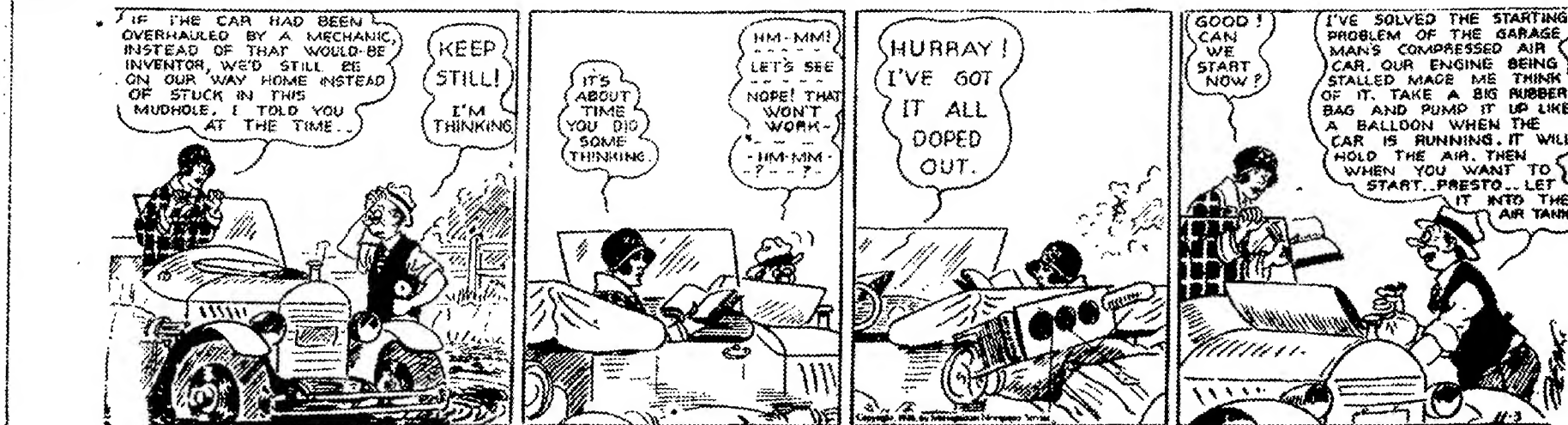


November 3, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

The Thinker

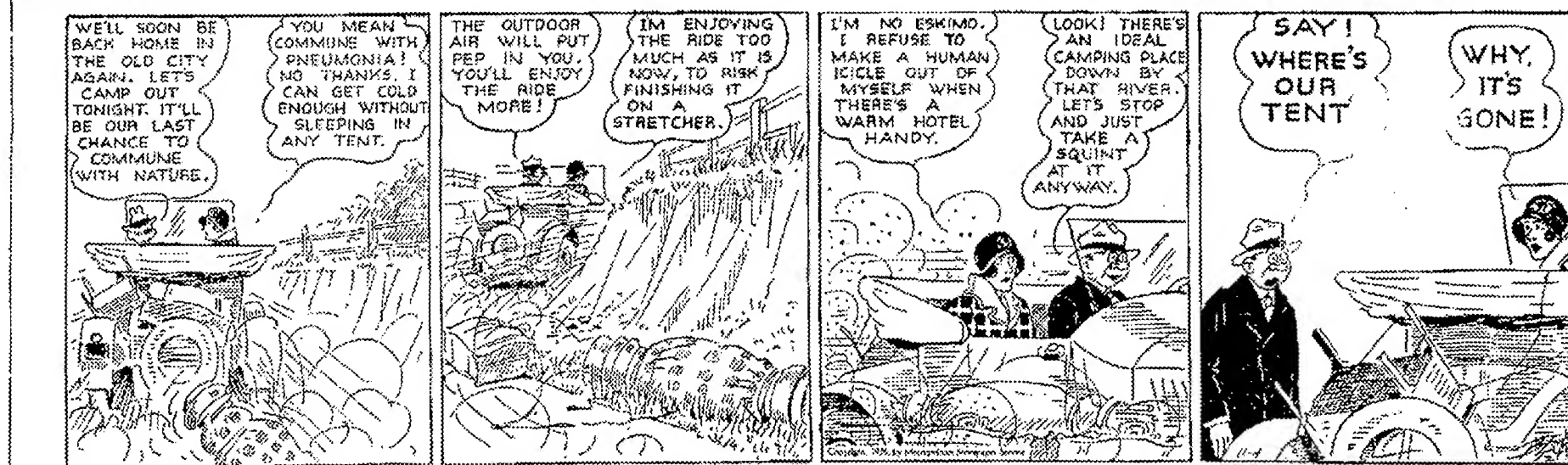
BY BECK



November 4, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

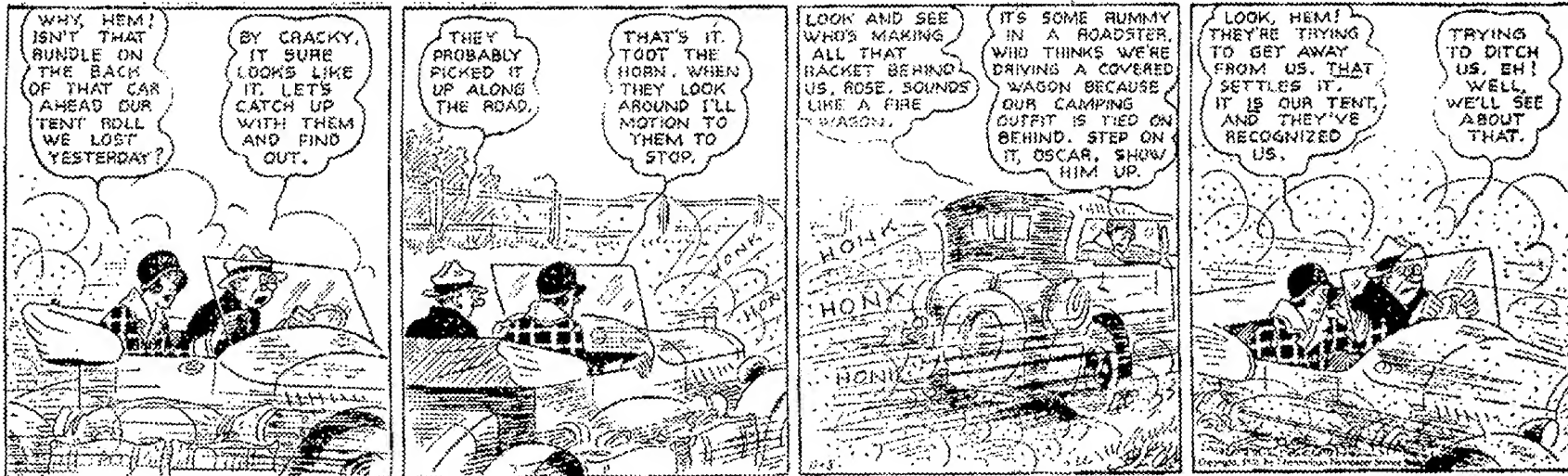
What's All the Shooting About?



November 5, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

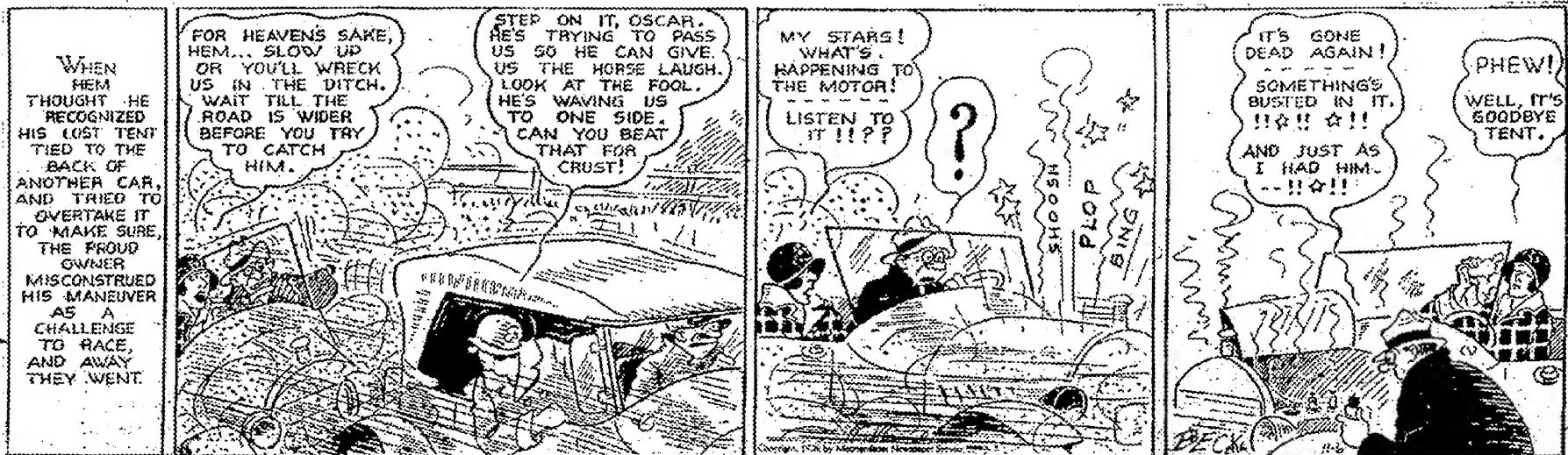
They're Off



November 6, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

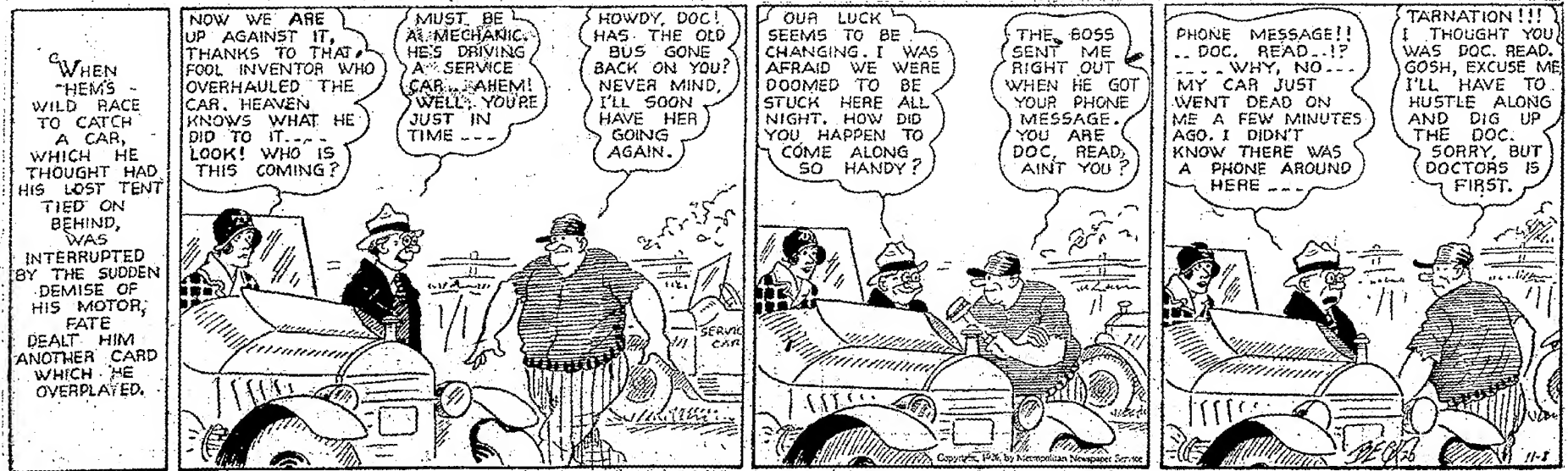


November 8, 1926

Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



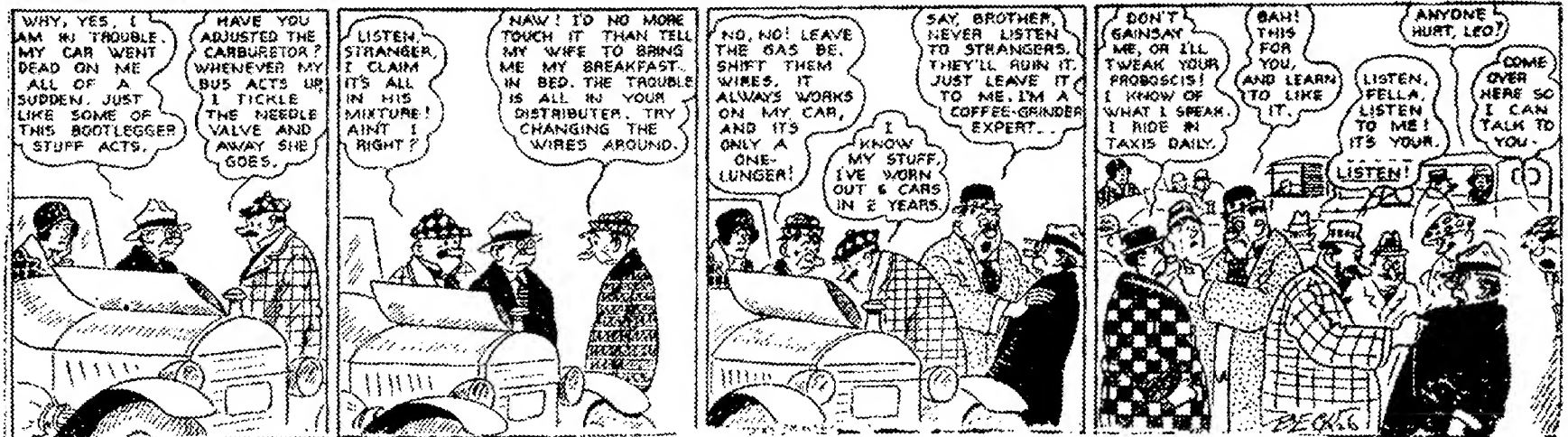
November 9, 1926

Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Help At Last—Help! Help!

BY BECK



November 10, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

At the End of His Rope

BY BECK

AFTER LISTENING TO ABOUT A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF FREE ADVICE ON HOW TO START HIS STALLED CAR, HEM FINALLY DECIDES TO ACCEPT THE OLD-FASHIONED SOLUTION SUGGESTED BY A PASSING TRUCK-DRIVER.

TEN BUCKS FOR TOWING ME INTO TOWN IS PRETTY STEEP, HOWEVER, I'LL PAY IT, BUT I DON'T SEE WHY I SHOULD FORK OVER IN ADVANCE.

LISTEN, BUDDY. I'VE TOWED IN TOO MANY DEAD MOTORS AND FOUND OUT AFTERWARDS THEY WAS DRIVEN 'BY DEADBEATS, TO TAKE CHANCES ON ANY MORE CHARITY DRIVES. KICK THROUGH OR CUT LOOSE!

!!!
IS THAT DUMBBELL TRYING TO JERK THE FRONT AXLE OUT ???
GO EASY!

HEY!
WAIT A MINUTE !!
ROPE'S BUSTED

?

November 11, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Ain't Women Curious

AREN'T YOU EVEN GOING TO TRY AND GET THE ENGINE STARTED? WE CAN'T SIT HERE FOREVER! THERE'S NO SENSE IN YOU ACTING STUBBORN JUST BECAUSE THE CAR IS.

WHAT CAN I DO? I DON'T KNOW WHAT AILS IT. JUST TAKING IT TO PIECES AND LAYING THE PARTS OUT ON THE ROAD WON'T GET US ANYPLACE!

AT LEAST YOU MIGHT TRY. NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING GAINED. DID YOU LOOK CAREFULLY TO SEE IF ANYTHING WAS LOOSE?

NO, SWEETHEART. I MERELY SNIFFED AROUND TO SEE IF I COULDN'T SMELL A RAT IN IT SOMEPLACE.

QUIT MONKEYING AROUND. IT'S BAD ENOUGH WITHOUT YOU MAKING IT WORSE. THAT'S NO JOB FOR A HAIRPIN. LEAVE IT ALONE, I TELL YOU.

I'M ONLY TIGHTENING THIS WIRE BEFORE IT FALLS OUT OF PLACE.

OH HEM!
IT'S GOING...
FIXING THAT WIRE DID IT !!

?

November 12, 1926
The Journal

GAS BUGGIES

The Tent Turns Up

AFTER MANY AGGRAVATING DELAYS WITH A BALKY MOTOR HEM AND AMY ARRIVE AT A SMALL TOWN HOTEL IN SEARCH OF A GOOD NIGHT'S REST. WHEN THEY MAKE A DISCOVERY THAT CAUSES THEM TO FORGET ALL ABOUT WHAT THEY CAME FOR.

HERE'S A HOTEL AT LAST. I'M SO ALL IN I CAN HARDLY DRAG MY DOGS UPSTAIRS TO BED. I'LL MAKE OLD RIP VAN WINKLE LOOK LIKE A PIKER WHEN IT COMES TO LONG-DISTANCE SNOOZING.

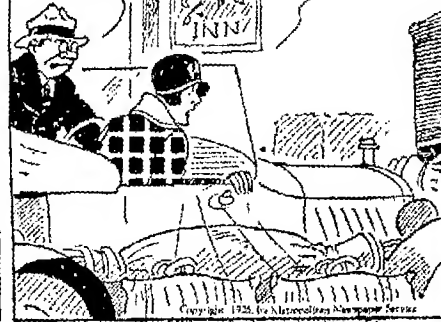
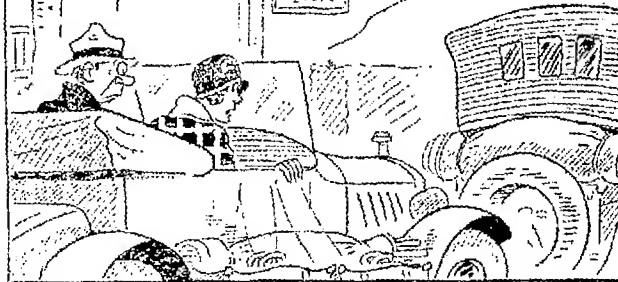
HEM!!
LOOK ON THE BACK OF THAT CAR! ISN'T THAT OUR LOST TENT? IT LOOKS LIKE THE CAR WE TRIED TO CATCH...

IT SURE IS THE CAR. I REMEMBER THE LICENSE NUMBER. YOU STAY HERE AND WATCH IT WHILE I GET THE GUY. HE MUST BE IN THIS HOTEL.

WELL... I DECLARE. I HAD KISSED THE OLD TENT GOODBYE.

NO, SIR, I DON'T REMEMBER EXACTLY WHICH GUEST THAT CAR BELONGS TO, BUT YOU COULDN'T SEE THEM NOW ANYWAY. IT'S TWO A.M. AND EVERYONE'S IN BED. PERHAPS IN THE MORNING...

MORNING, MY EYE! I'M GOING TO SEE 'EM RIGHT NOW. IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO WAKE UP EVERY GUEST --- THINK FAST!



November 13, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Rough and Ready

BY BECK

WHEN THE NIGHT CLERK AT THE HOTEL HESITATED ABOUT IDENTIFYING THE GUEST WHO OWNED THE CAR PARKED OUT IN FRONT, WITH HEMS LOST TENT ON IT, HEM TOOK MATTERS IN HIS OWN HANDS AND PROCEEDED TO LOCATE THE OWNER HIMSELF.

I CAN'T REMEMBER WHICH PARTY OWNS THE CAR. WE HAVE SEVERAL MOTOR PARTIES STOPPING OVER. I WOULDN'T THINK OF WAKING OUR GUESTS TO ASK --- KEY --- WAIT --- LISTEN.

COME ON! I'LL WAKE 'EM UP FOR YOU. JUST SHOW ME WHICH ROOMS THEY'RE IN.

AWRIGHT. ASK 'EM. GO ON. ASK 'EM!

ARE YOU THE PARTY WHO'S RED CAR IS PARKED OUT IN FRONT?

WAKE ME UP -- BEAT IT! OR THERE'LL BE A BIG BLACK ONE WITH SHINY TASSELS ON IT WAITING FOR YOU. !!!!!

COME ON... DON'T STAND THERE SANDYING WORDS -- WHERE IS THE NEXT ONE?

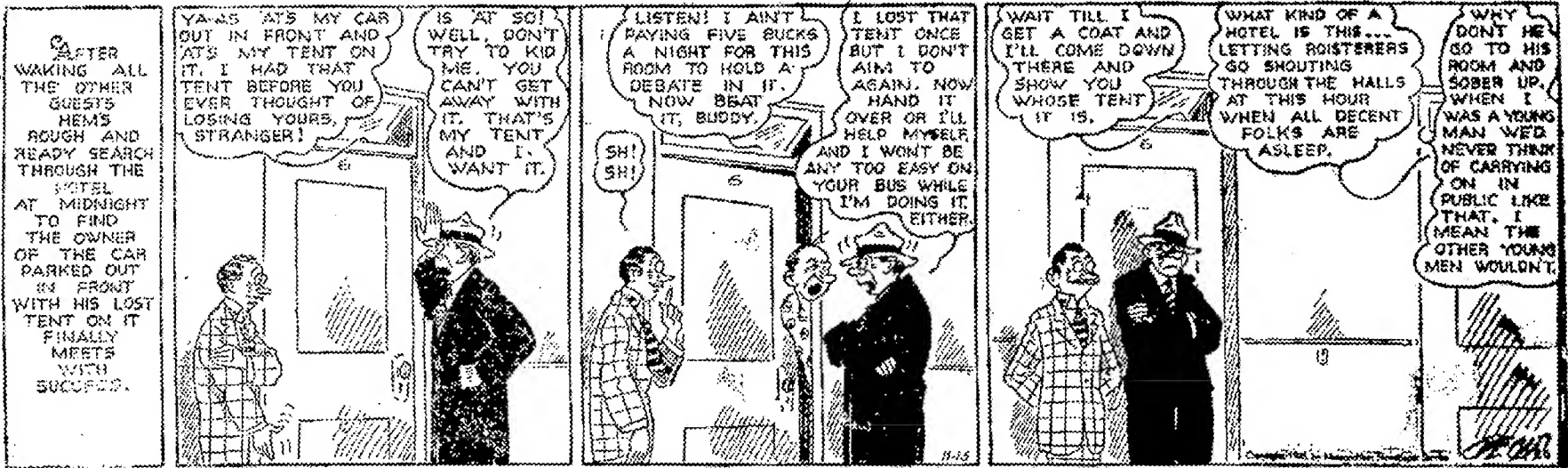
YOU FRESH THING! GO AWAY OR I'LL CALL A POLICEMAN. IT'S A FINE STATE OF AFFAIRS WHEN AN UNPROTECTED LADY CAN'T TRAVEL WITHOUT BEING INSULTED.



November 15, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

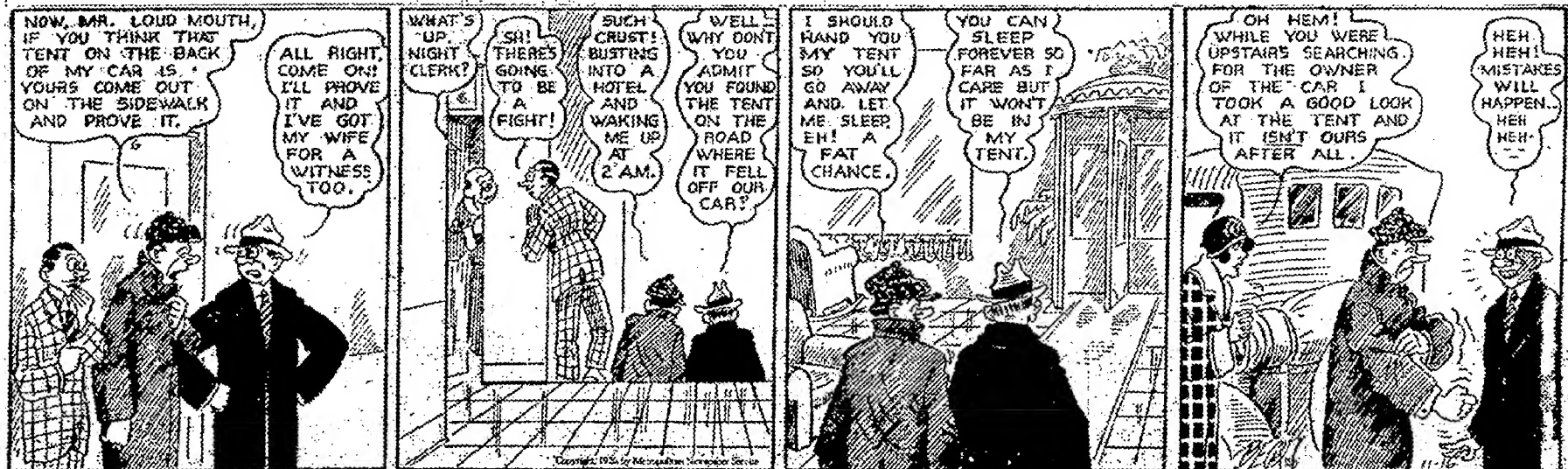
Hunting Up Trouble



November 16, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

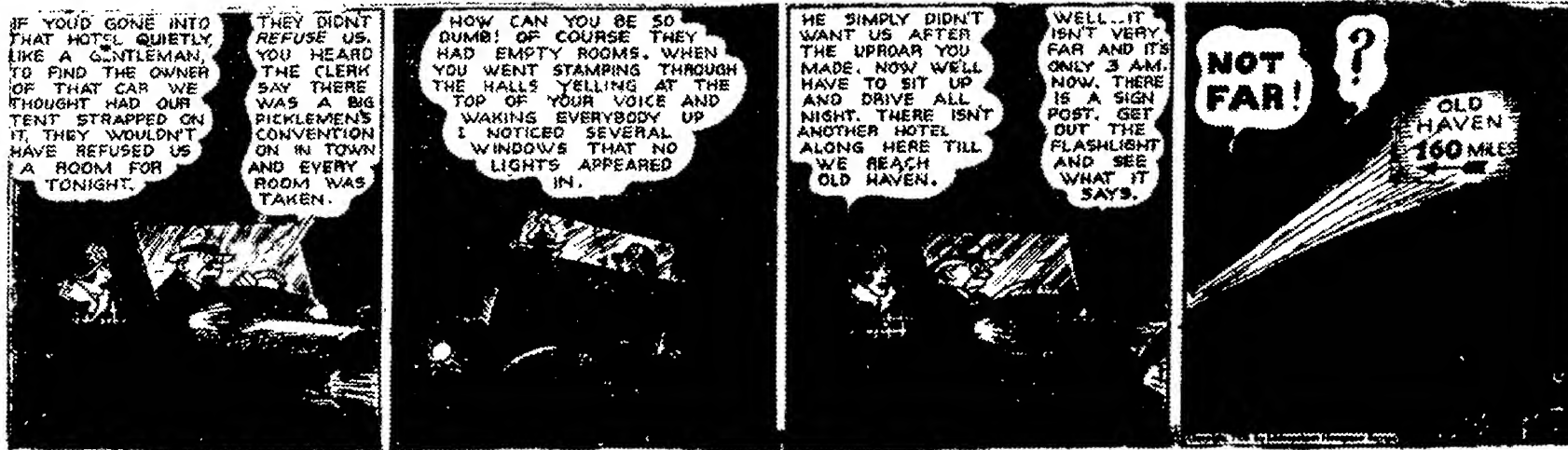


November 17, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Rolling Along

BY BECK

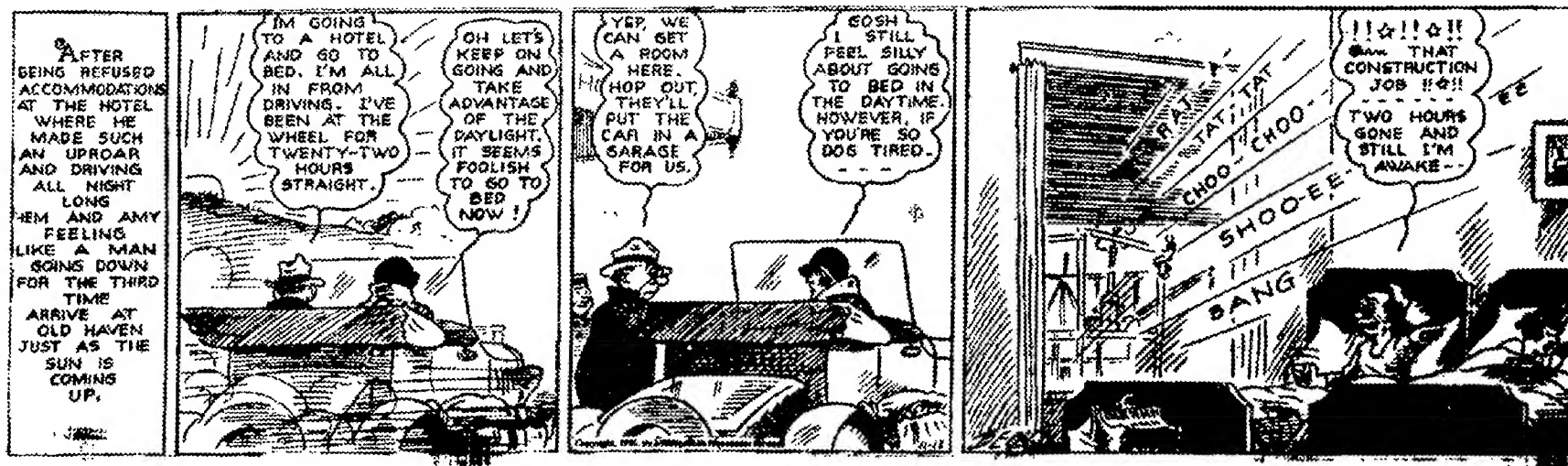


November 18, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Sleep My Little One

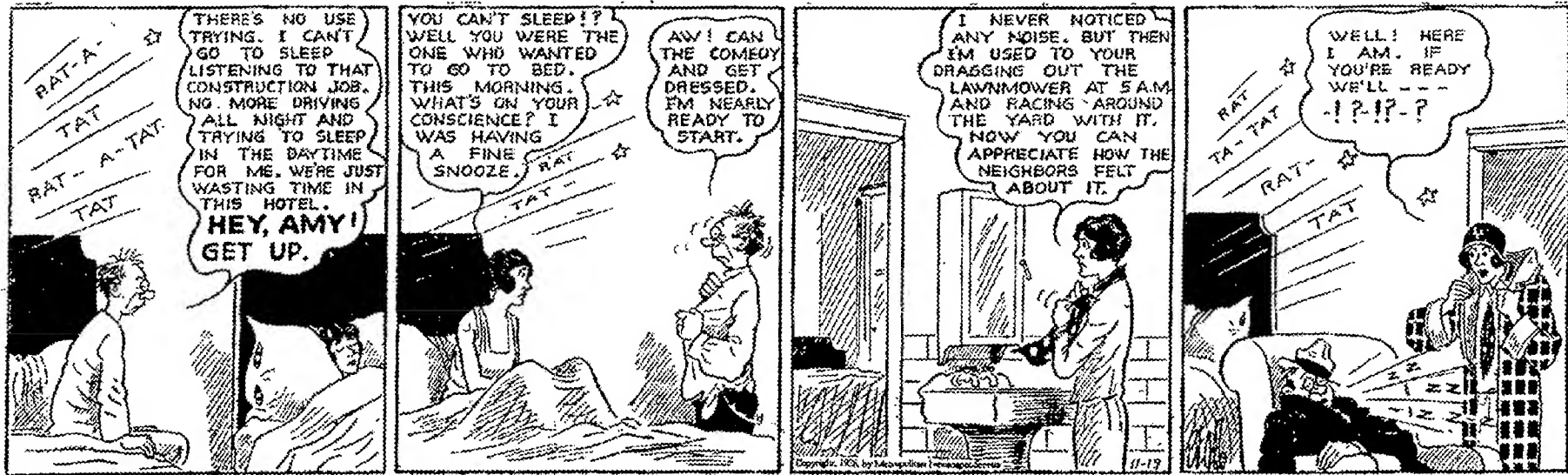
BY BECK



November 19, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

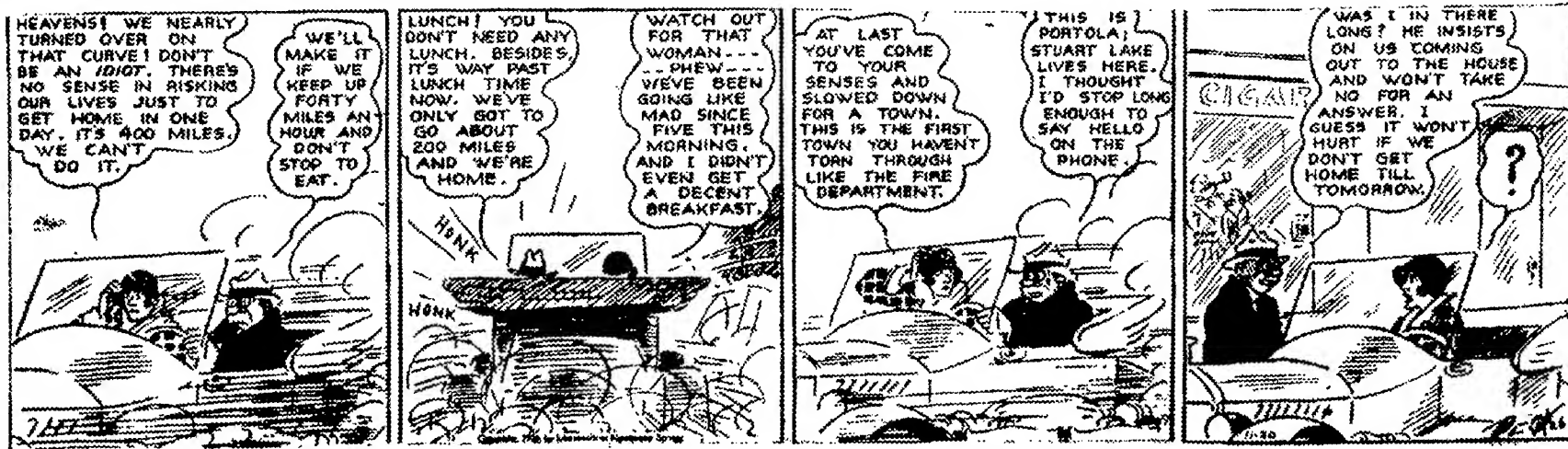


November 20, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Hurry Hurry

BY BECK



November 22, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Be It Ever So Humble

BY BECK

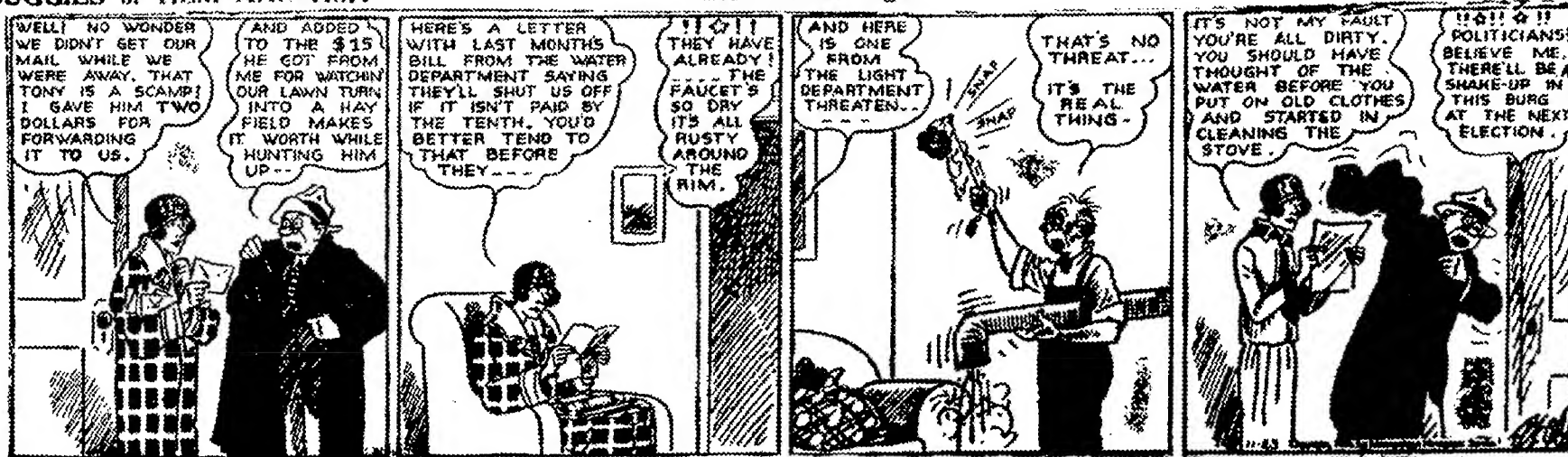


November 23, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Let There Be Light

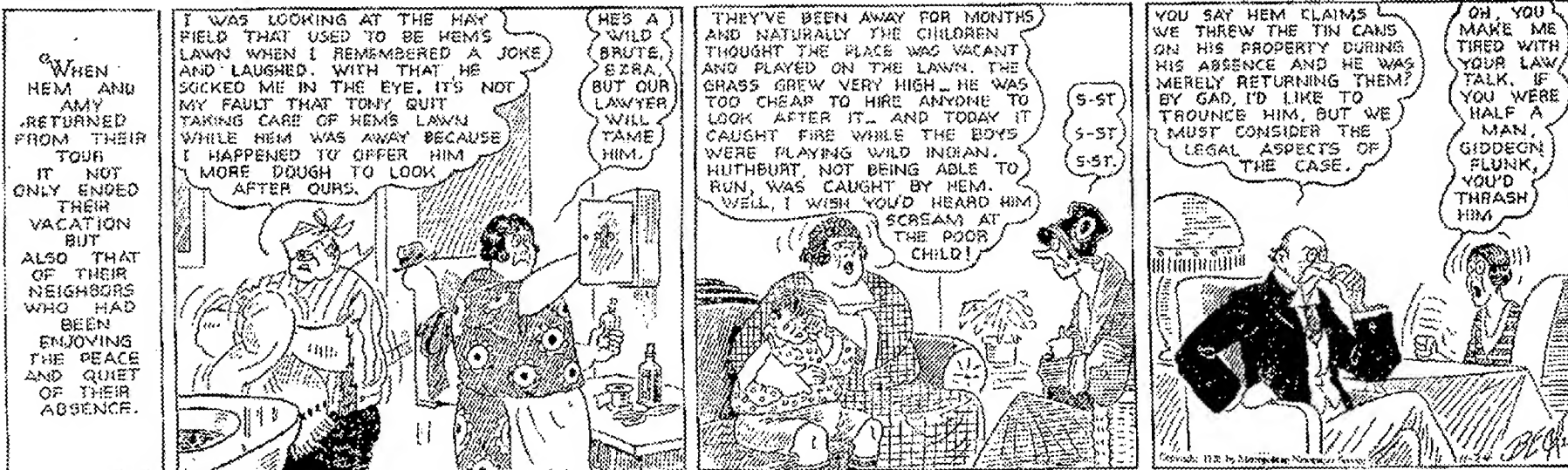
BY BECK



November 24, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

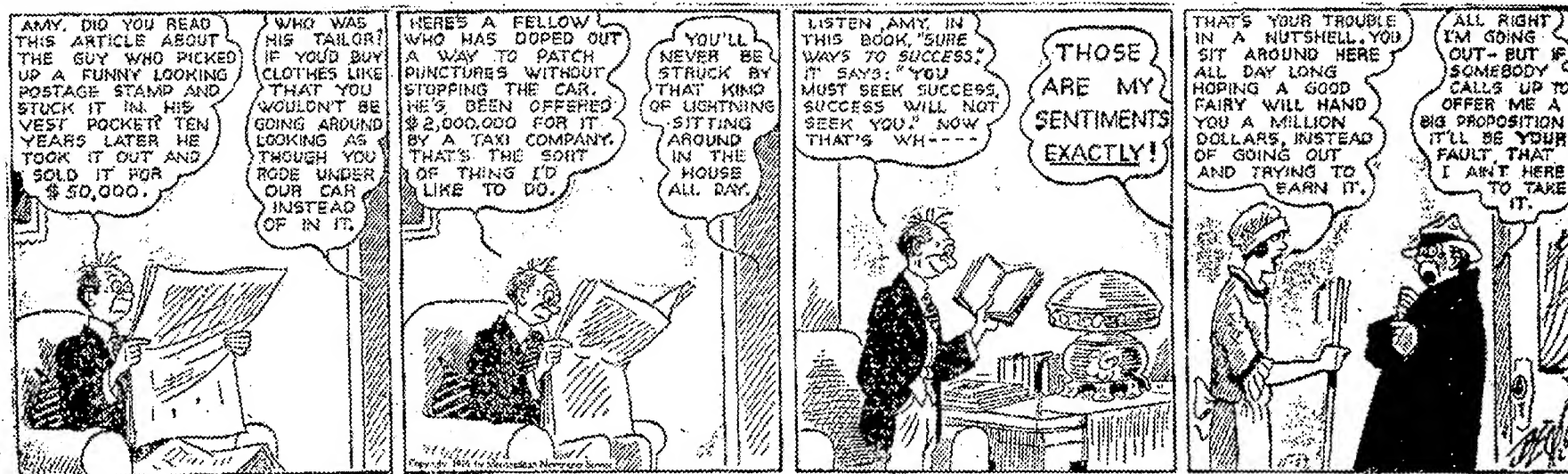
Welcome Home, Hem



November 27, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Mark Time--Forward March

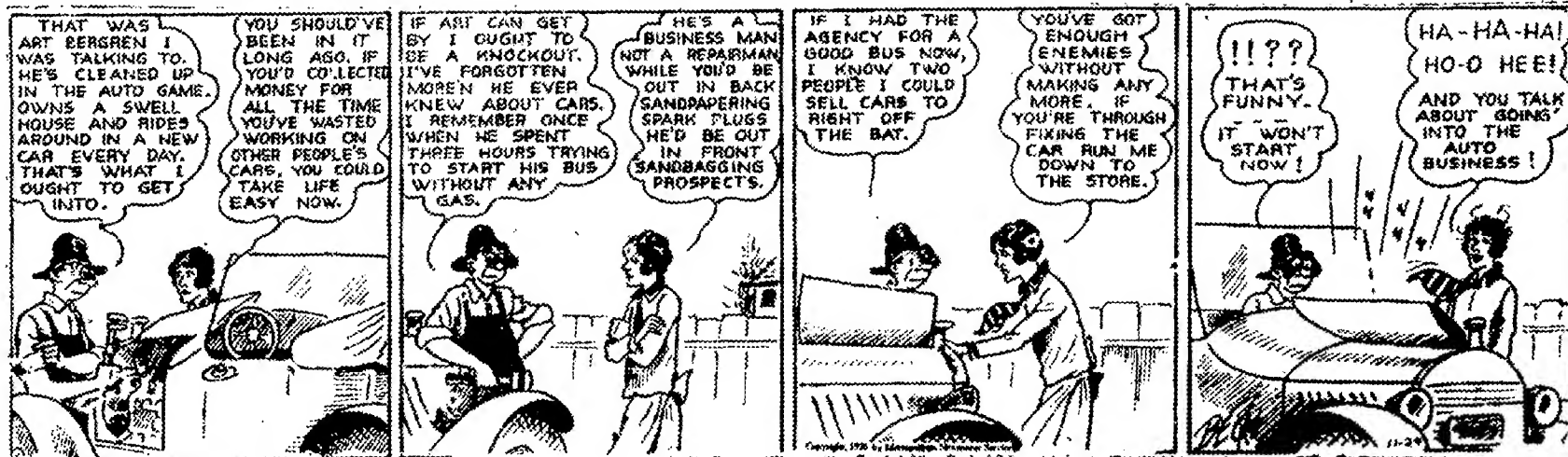


November 29, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

It's Easier Said Than Done

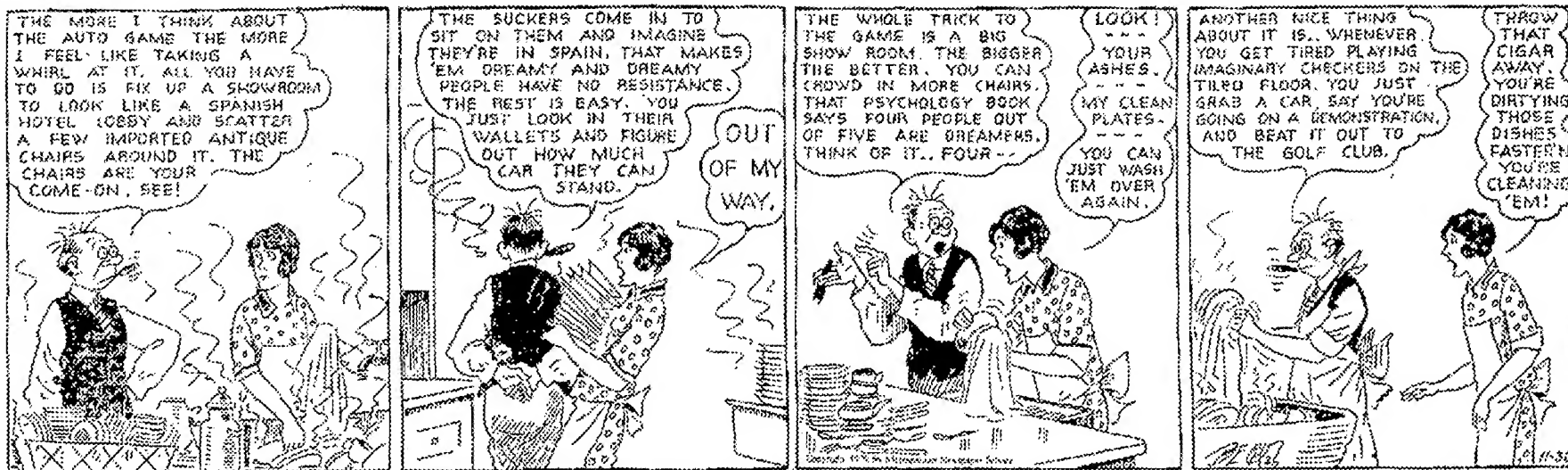
BY BECK



November 30, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Hem Is Weakening



December 1, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY **Lesson Number One** **BY BECK**

Panel 1: AFTER READING THIS BOOK "HOW TO SELL SUCCESSFULLY," I FEEL LIKE I COULD TAKE ON A LINE OF SNAPPY CARS AND KEEP THE FACTORY GOING DAY AND NIGHT, SINGLE HANDED.

Panel 2: NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. ALL YOU'D NEED IS A ENOUGH SUCKERS AS SOFT AS YOU WERE WHEN YOU BOUGHT A BUS THE DAY AFTER THE FACTORY FAILED.

Panel 3: WHERE MOST OF THESE DEALERS FALL DOWN IS THEY'RE NOT HEP TO THE PRINCIPLES OF SELLING. THEY DON'T SAVVY THIS PSYCHOLOGY STUFF. THEIR METHODS ARE CRUDE --

Panel 4: WELL... I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU ADMIT IT AT LAST. AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER YOUR BUYING A CAR MEANT MY SITTING UP NIGHT AFTER NIGHT WAITING FOR A DIFFERENT SALESMAN TO GUIDE YOU UP THE WALK ABOUT TWO A.M.

Panel 5: I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I MEAN. WE'LL SUPPOSE YOU'RE A LADY PROSPECT WHO HAS COME IN TO SEE THE CAR. -- -- -- AH... MADAME... LOVELY WETHAW WEAH HAVING... CAN I SHOW YOU OWUH CAR?

Panel 6: NO HURRY, MY GOOD MAN. I CAN WAIT TILL YOU'VE FINISHED WASHING YOUR HANDS.

Panel 7: NO WONDER OTHER GUYS GET AHEAD OF ME IN THIS WORLD. THEIR WIVES ARE A HELP TO 'EM -- NOT A HINDRANCE!

Panel 8: LOVE-ELLY WETHUH, MON-SHOORE, LOVE-ELLY.

December 2, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY **Baiting the Trap** **BY BECK**

Panel 1: HEM'S SMOULDERING SPARK OF AMBITION TO BECOME AN AUTOMOBILE DEALER THREATENS TO BURST INTO FLAME WHEN HE CALLS UPON DENTON FENDER, A FRIEND IN THE TRADE, WHO FANS IT VIGOROUSLY.

Panel 2: THEN YOU DON'T THINK I'D BE MAKING A MISTAKE TO STEP INTO THE AUTO GAME, DENTON!

Panel 3: ABSOLUTELY NOT. IT'S A PAVED ROAD TO PROSPERITY AND YOU CAN TAKE THE HILLS IN HIGH. IT'S JUST LIKE AN INHERITANCE WITHOUT THE TAX -- PARDON ME -- MY ASSISTANT IS CALLING ME --

Panel 4: LISTEN, SNOODGRASS -- I'VE GOT A BIRD I MAY BE ABLE TO UNLOAD THIS WHITE ELEPHANT ONTO. IF ANY SORREHEADS POP IN, SPIKE THEIR GUNS QUICK. SAVVY? IF THE GOES OVER, BOY, WE'LL HAVE OUR SHINGLE HANGING IN A LIVE LOCATION IN NO TIME.

Panel 5: GOOD! MAYBE YOU'D BETTER MARK YOUR PRIZE IN A LIMOUSINE THEN YOU ARE UNDER COVER.

Panel 6: IT'S A FINE CLOSED JOB. HOW ARE THE OPEN MODELS?

Panel 7: NOTICE HOW THIS CURTAIN WORKS!

Panel 8: CERTAINLY I REMEMBER YOU. YOU WERE HERE TO SEE MR. FENDER REGARDING OUR GUARANTEE TO TEACH YOUR WIFE TO DRIVE. HE ISN'T BUSY NOW. KINDLY STEP INTO HIS PRIVATE OFFICE.

Panel 9: SHE CAN'T DRIVE YET.

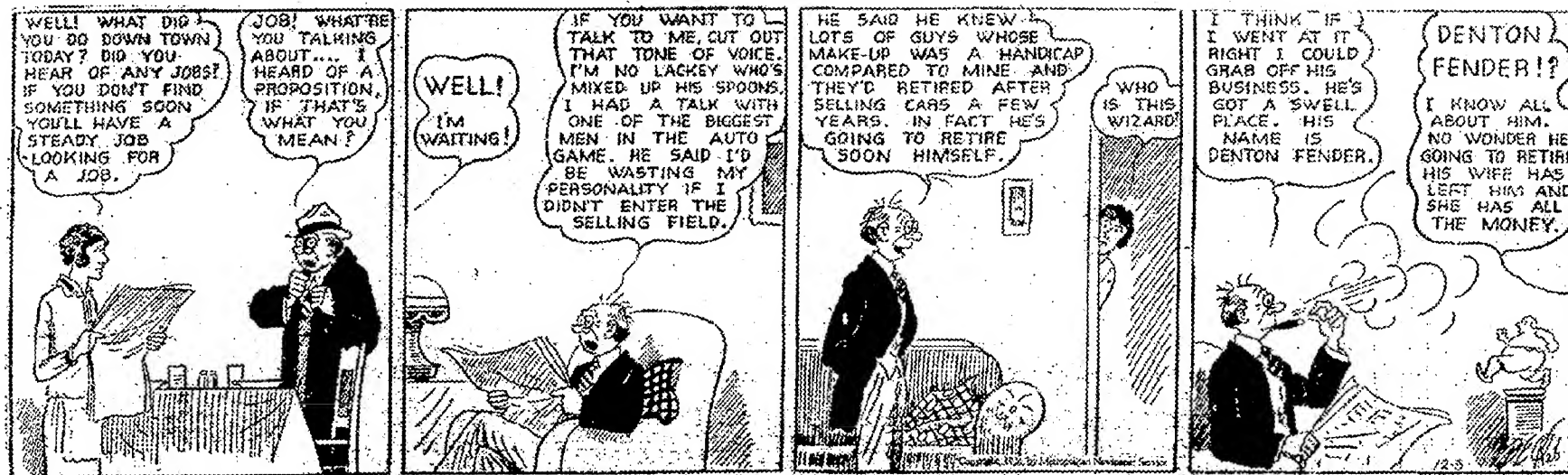
Panel 10: DIDN'T I TELL YOU, HERSHEL? HE'D SEE US QUICK ENOUGH WHEN HE HEARD LAWYER.

December 3, 1926

Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

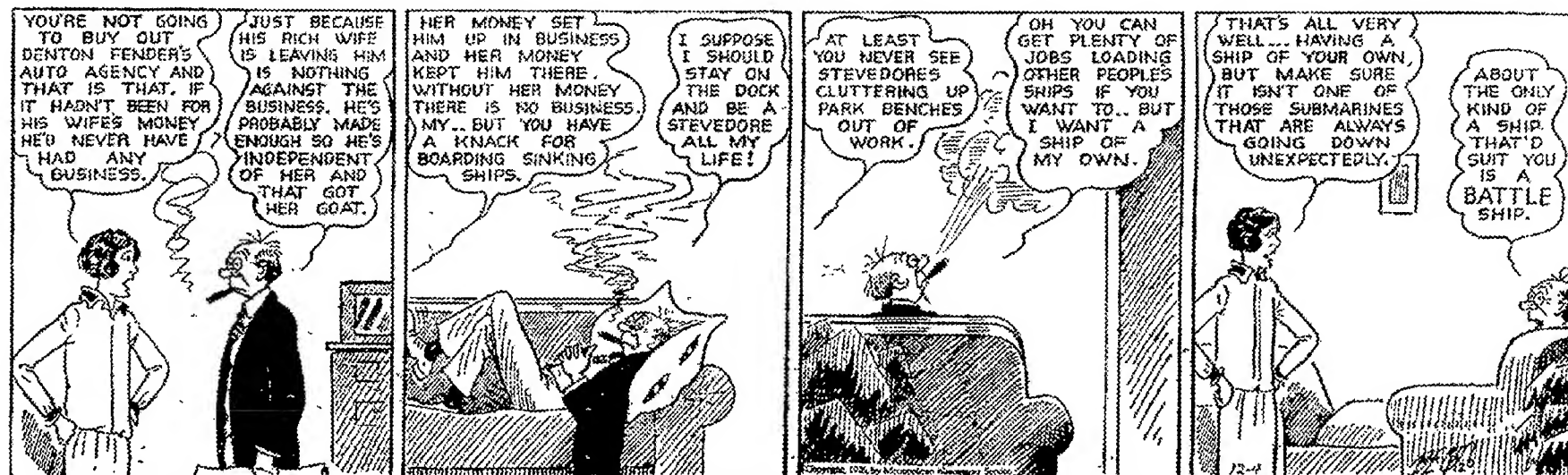


December 4, 1926

Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

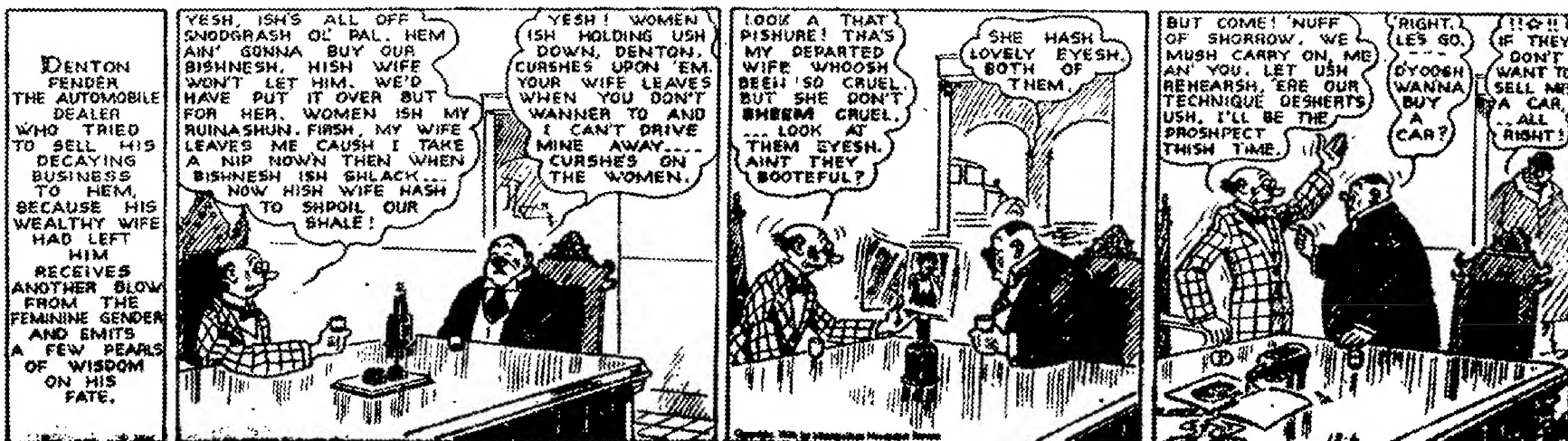


December 6, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

A Sad Story

BY BECK



December 7, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Another Gold Mine?

BY BECK



December 8, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Hem Gets Another Flat

BY BECK

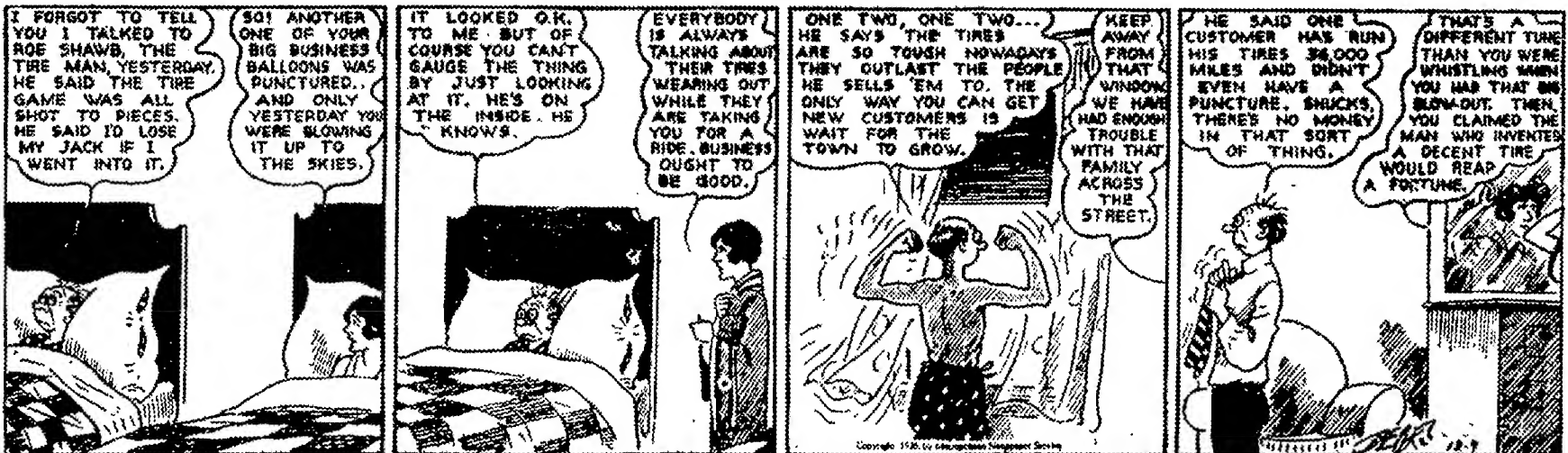


December 9, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

It Depends on How You Look at It

BY BECK



December 10, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Sympathy

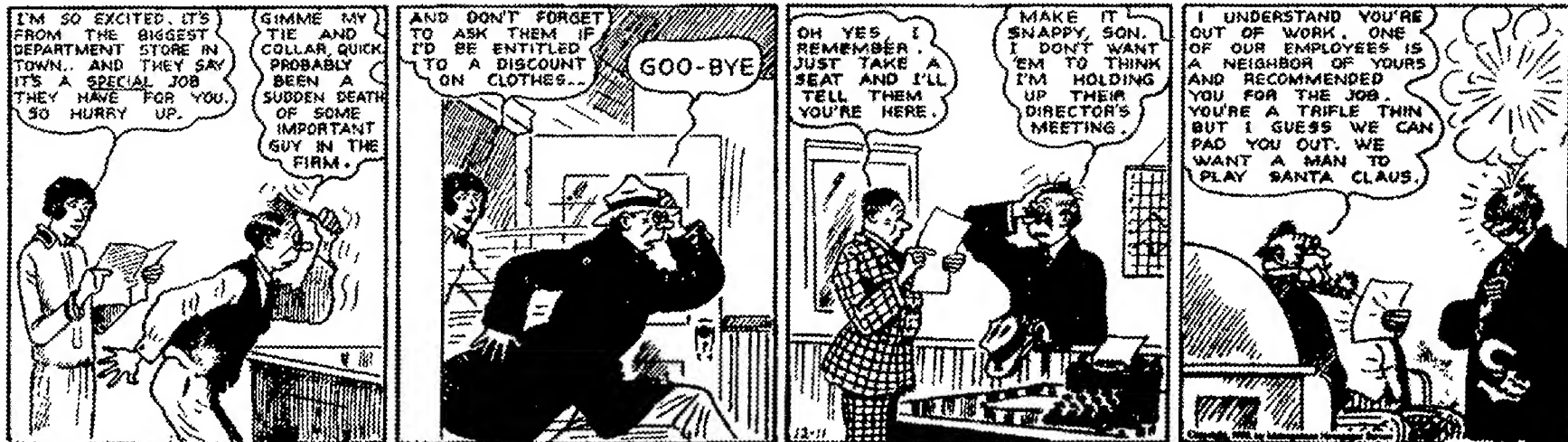


December 11, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

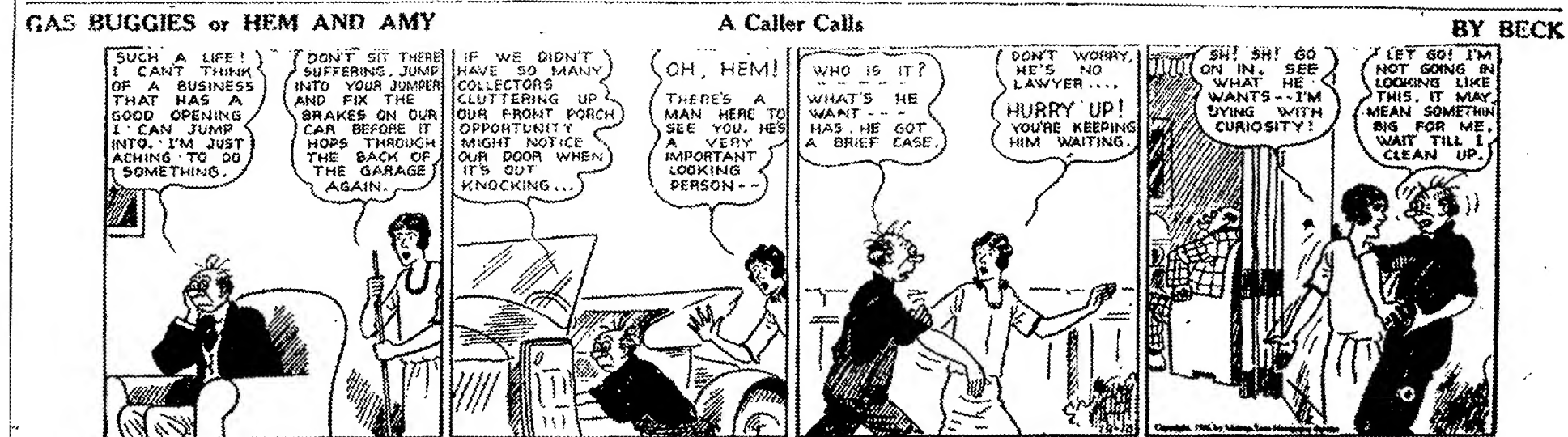
GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

The False Alarm

BY BECK



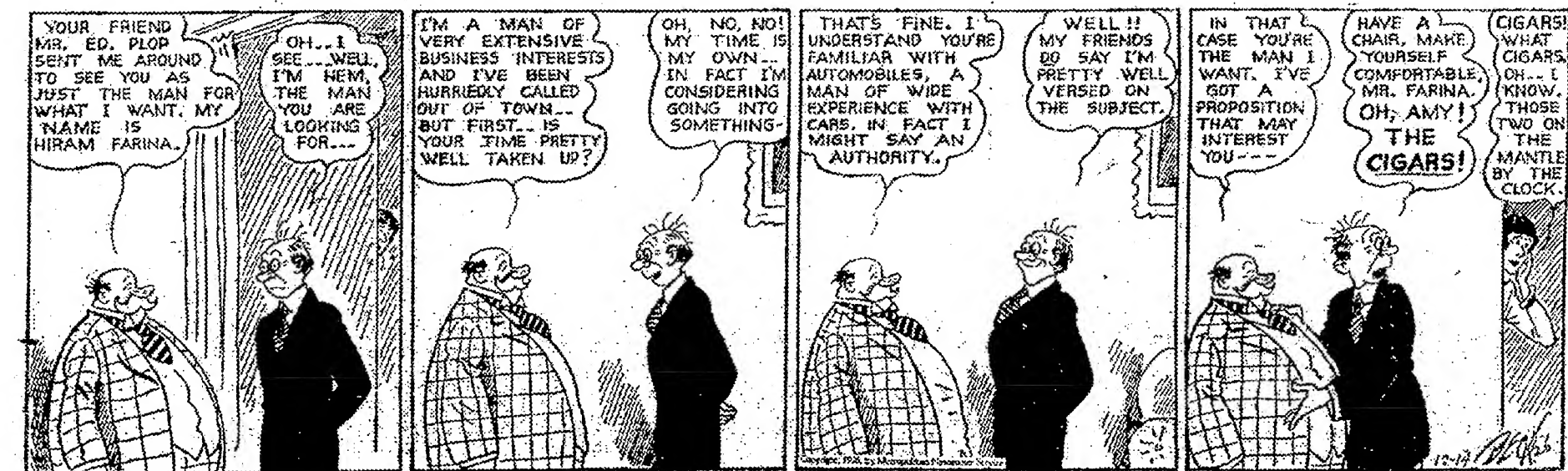
December 13, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer



December 14, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



December 15, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

A Proposition

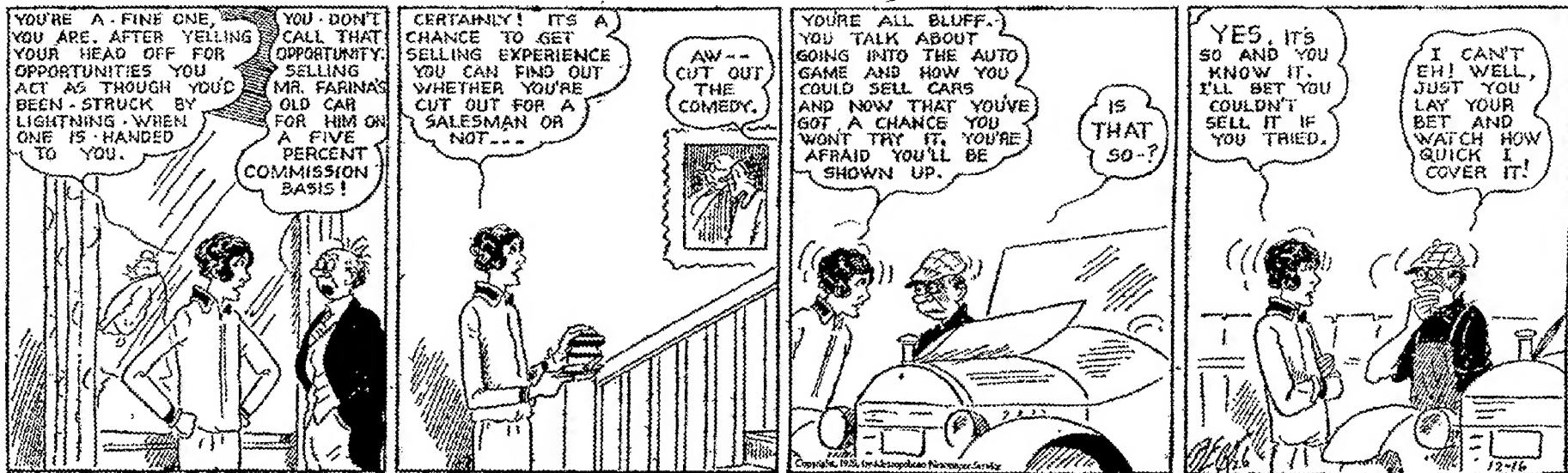
BY BECK



December 16, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

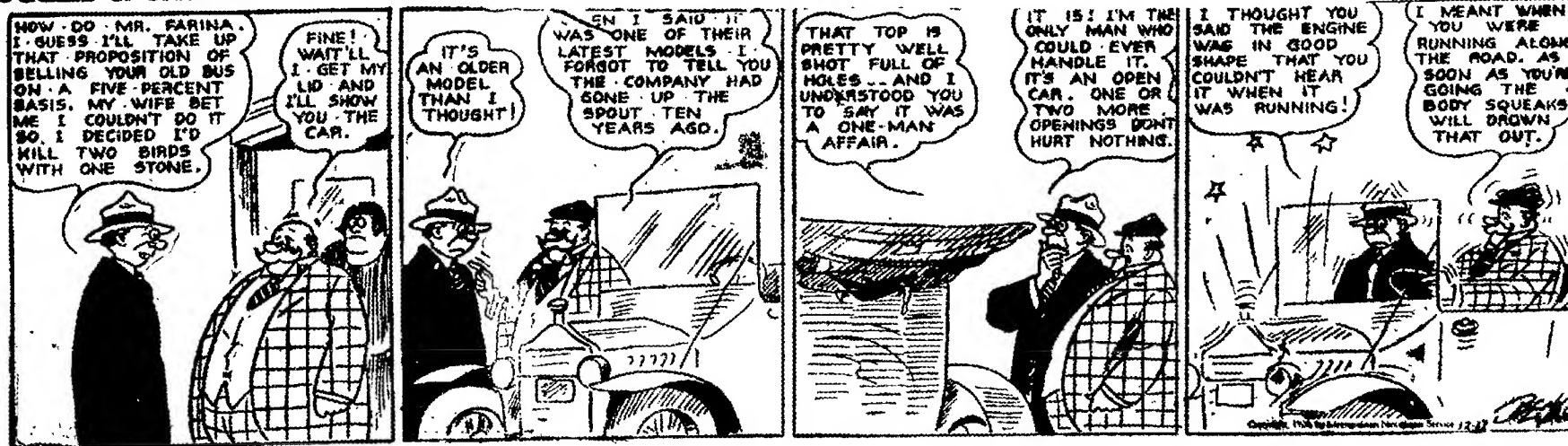


December 17, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

What Is a Car?

BY BECK

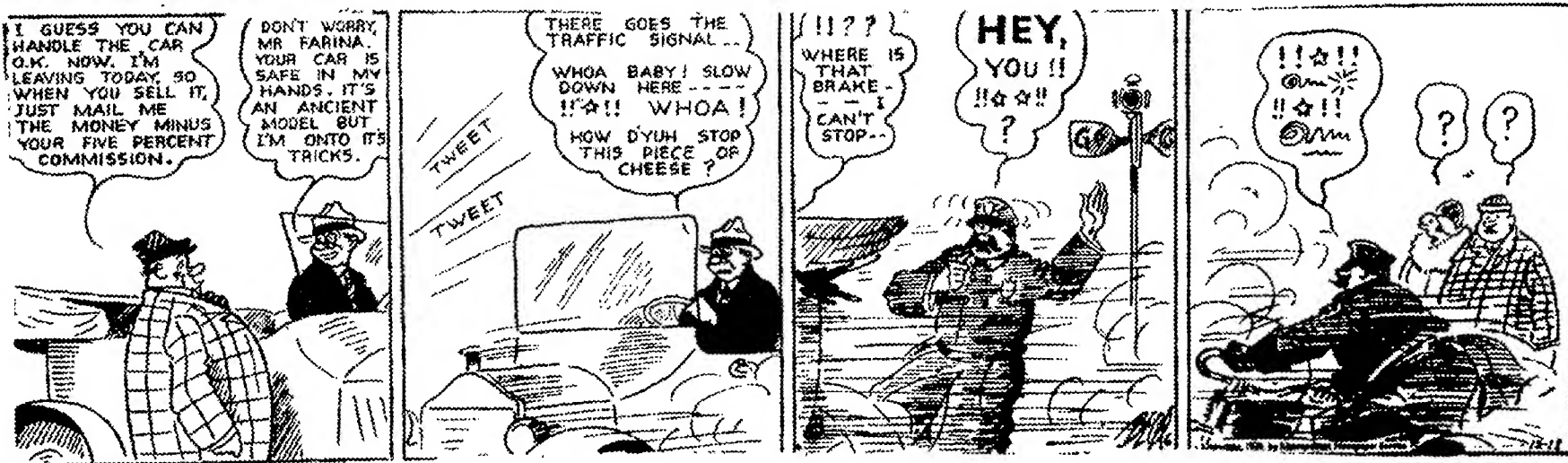


December 18, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Stop! Stop!

BY BECK



December 20, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Going Up

BY BECK



December 21, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

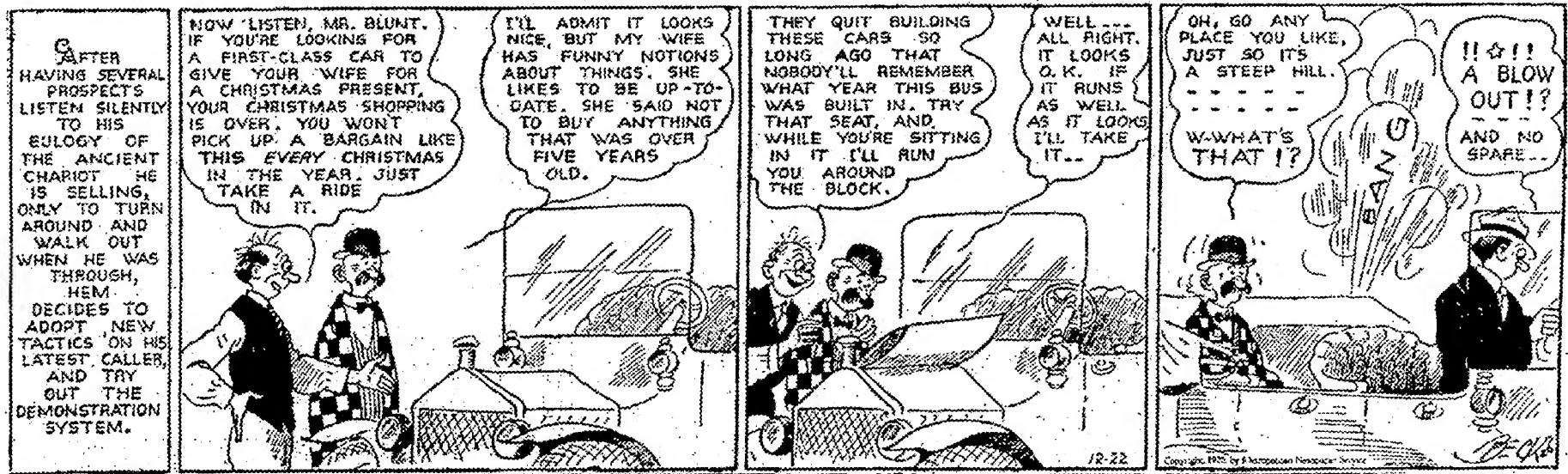
A Miss Is As Good As a Mile



December 22, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



December 23, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Hem Is Optimistic, If Nothing Else

BY BECK

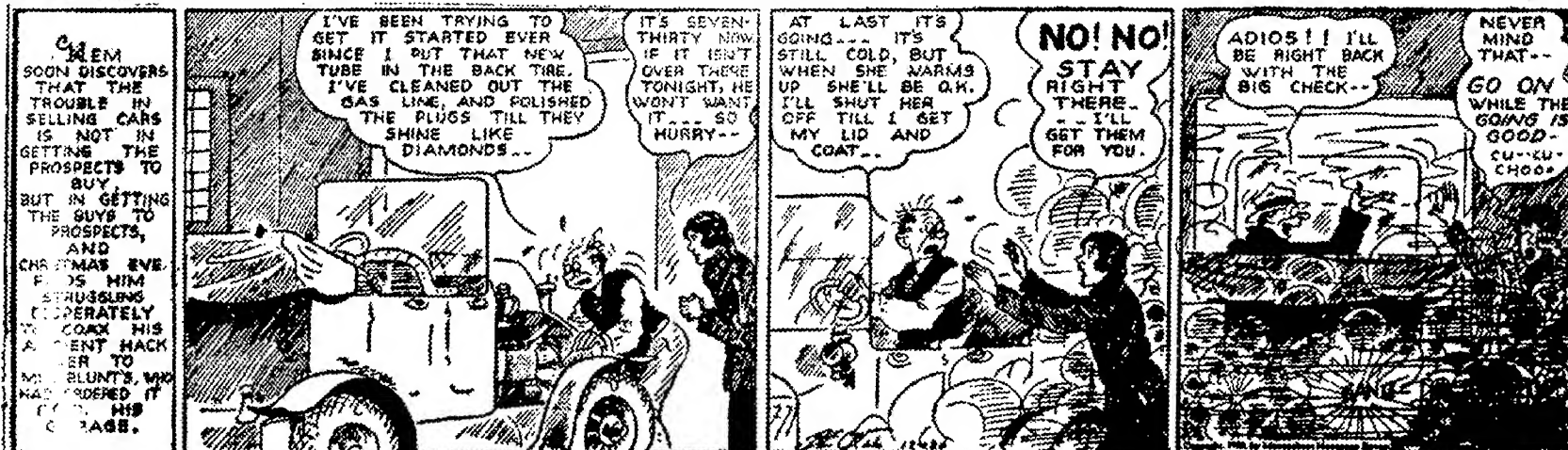


December 24, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

He Who Hesitates Is Lost

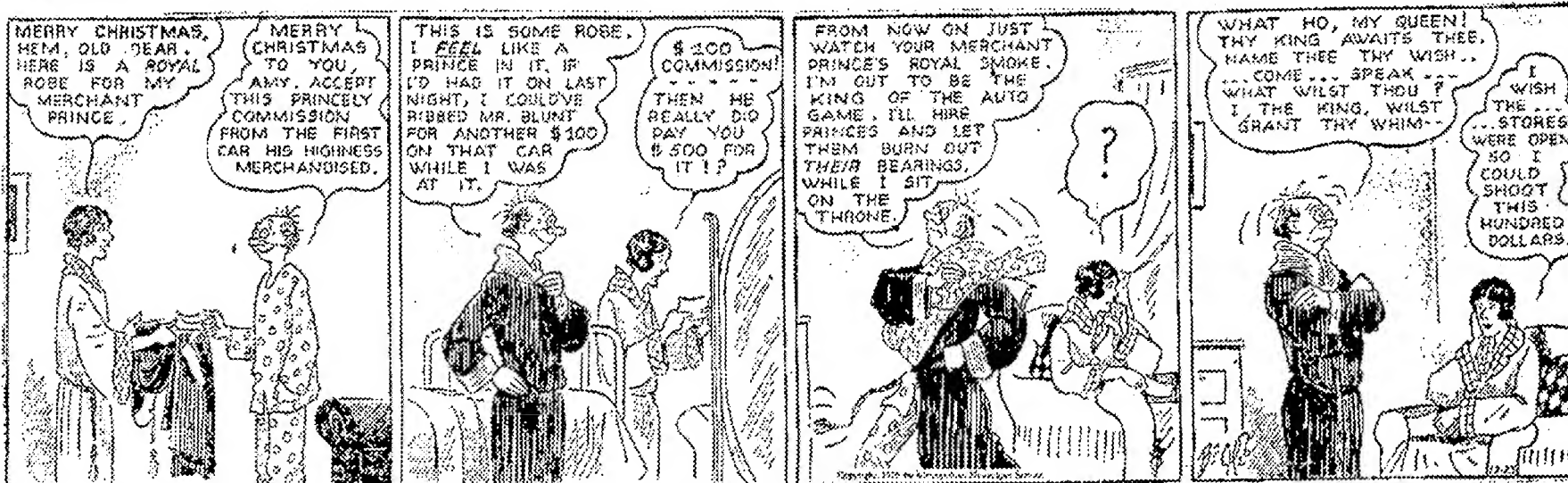
BY BECK



December 25, 1926
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Merry Christmas!

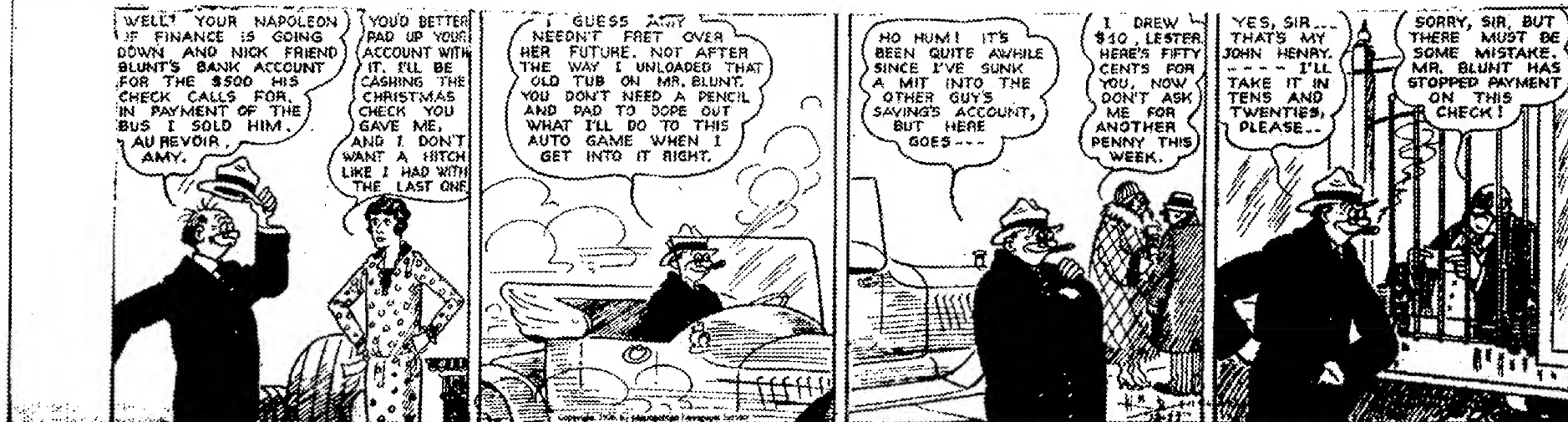


December 27, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Hem Draws A Blank

BY BECK

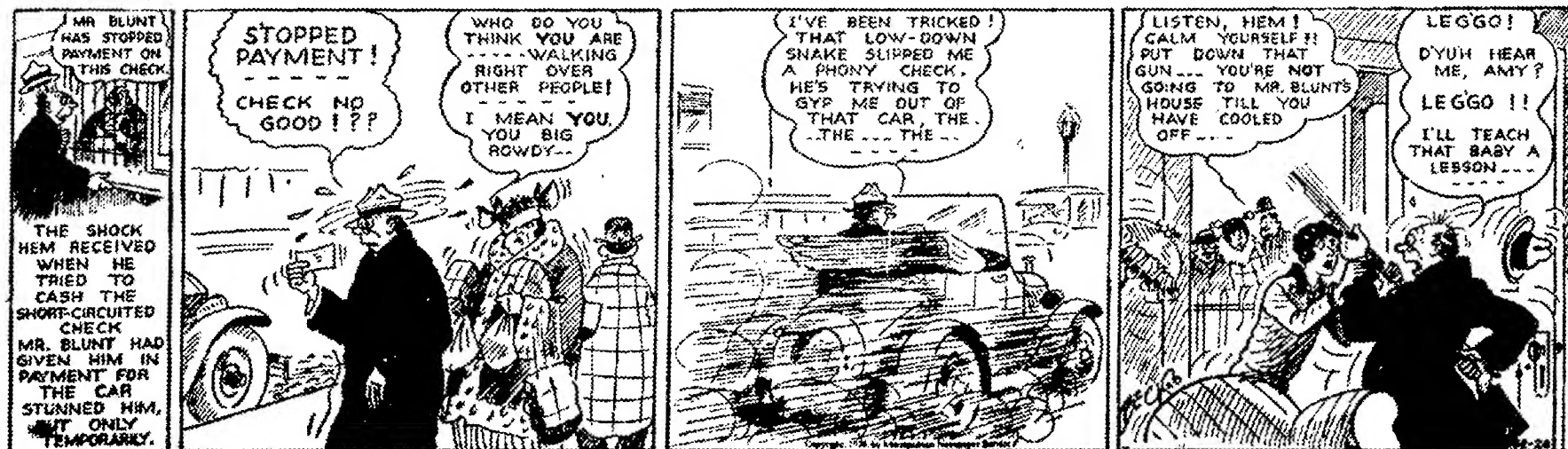


December 28, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Hold Him, Amy!

BY BECK

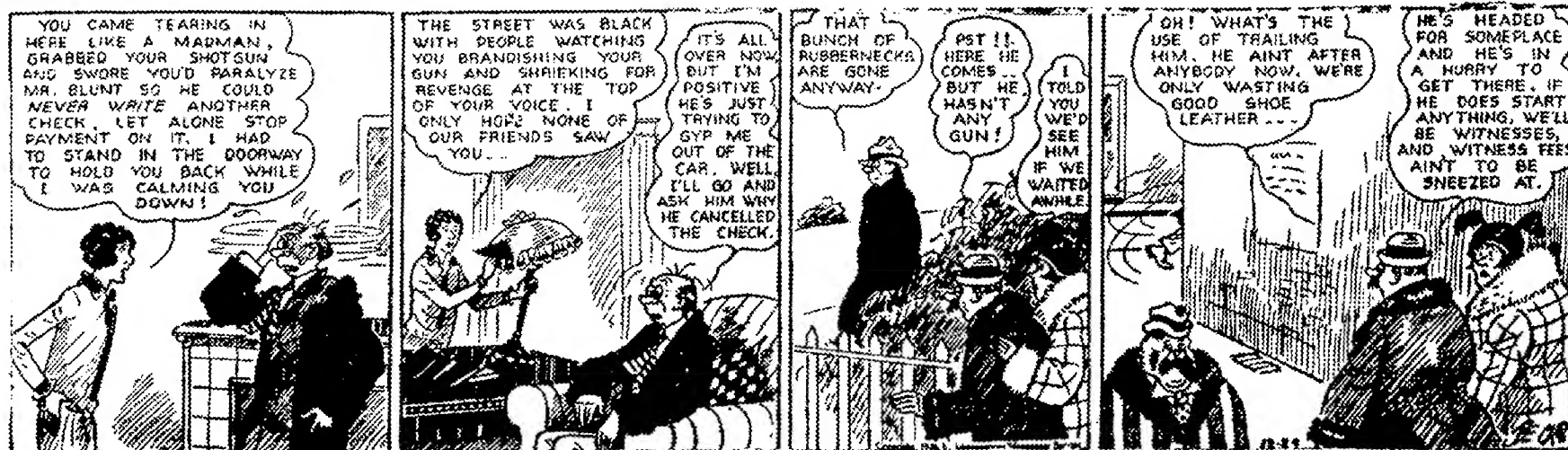


December 29, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

The False Alarm!

BY BECK

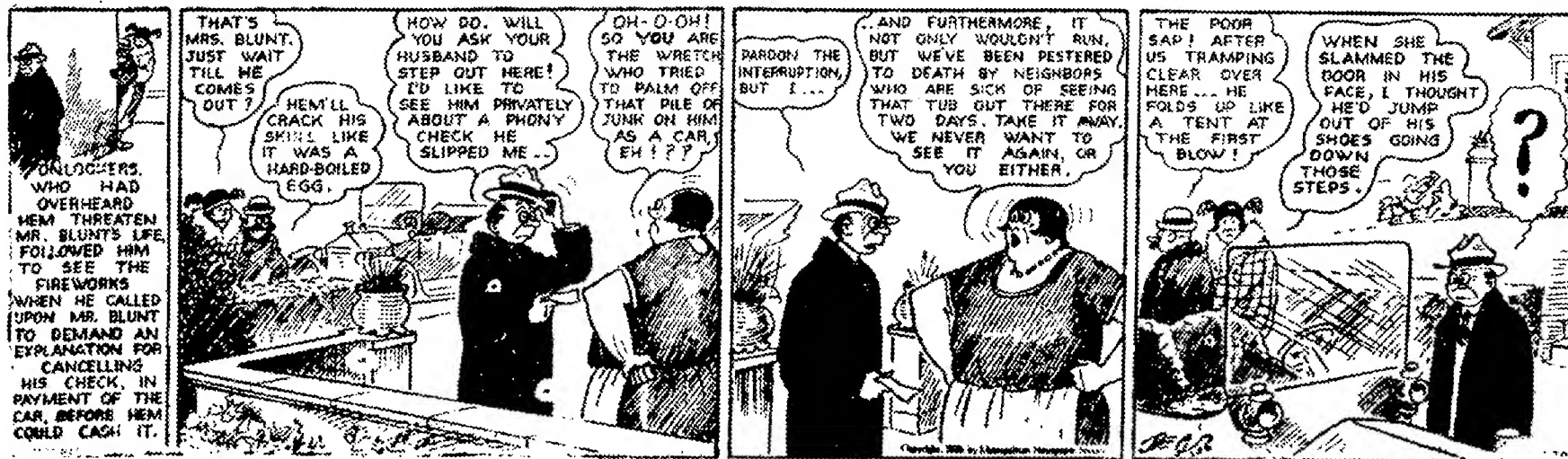


December 30, 1926
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Have Mercy, Hem!

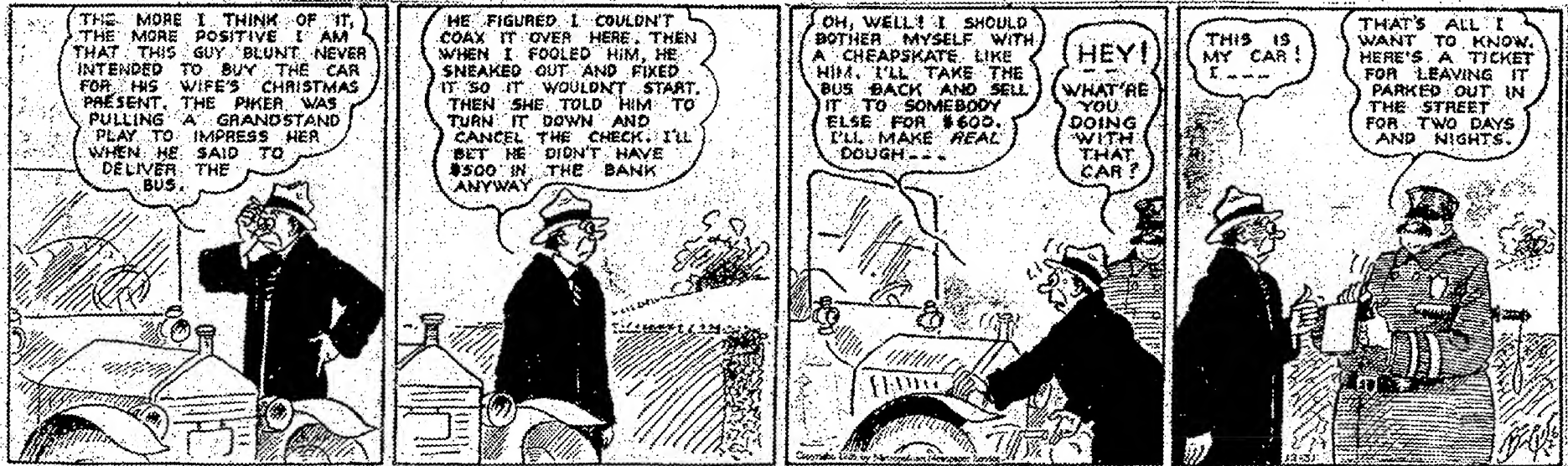
BY BECK



December 31, 1926
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



January 3, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

The Question Before the House

BY BECK



January 4, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

It Depends On How You Look At It



January 5, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Money In It--For Whom?



January 6, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

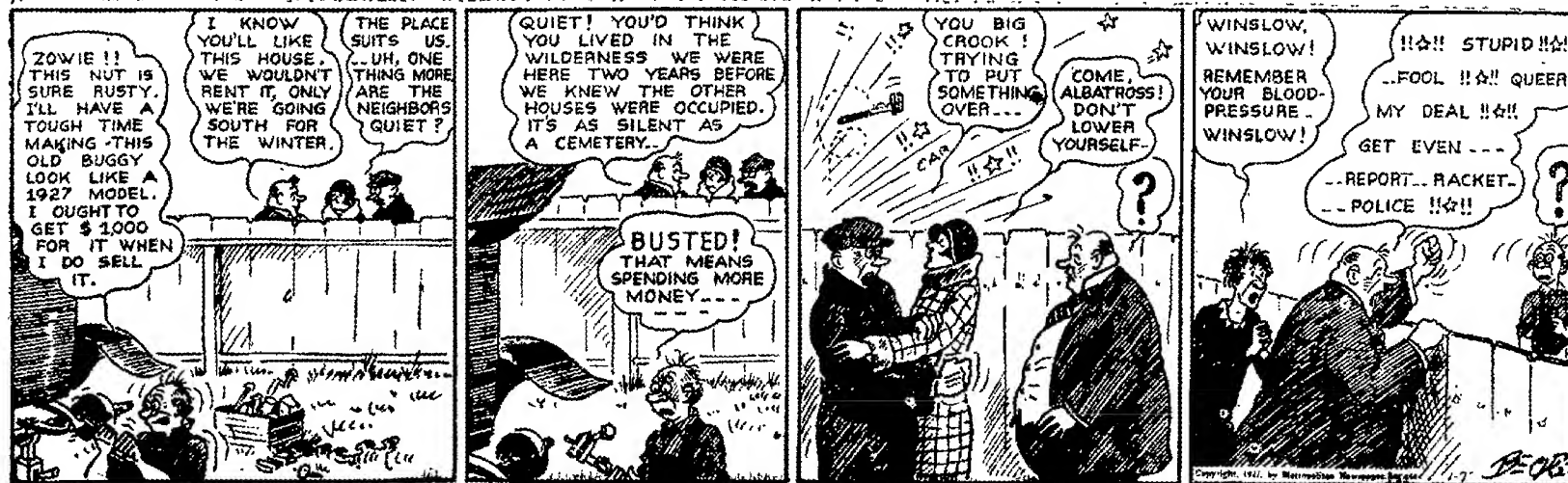


January 7, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES or HEM AND AMY

Circumstantial Evidence

BY BECK



January 8, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

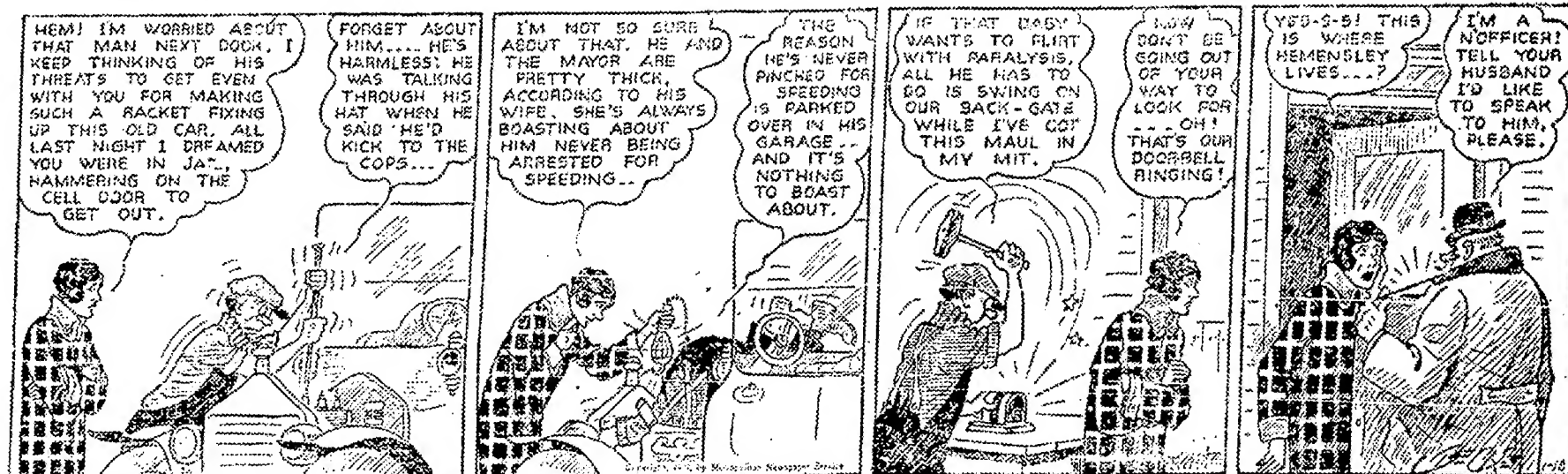
By FRANK BECK



January 10, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



January 11, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

At Least, Hem Is No Coward



January 12, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

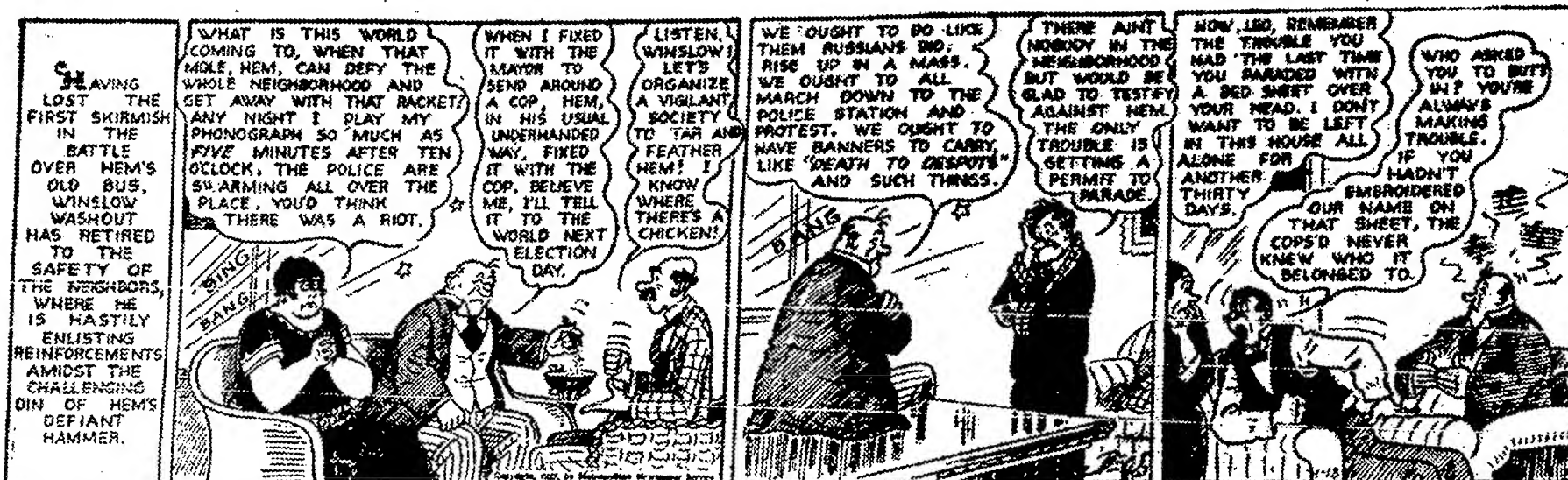
Foiled Again



January 13, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

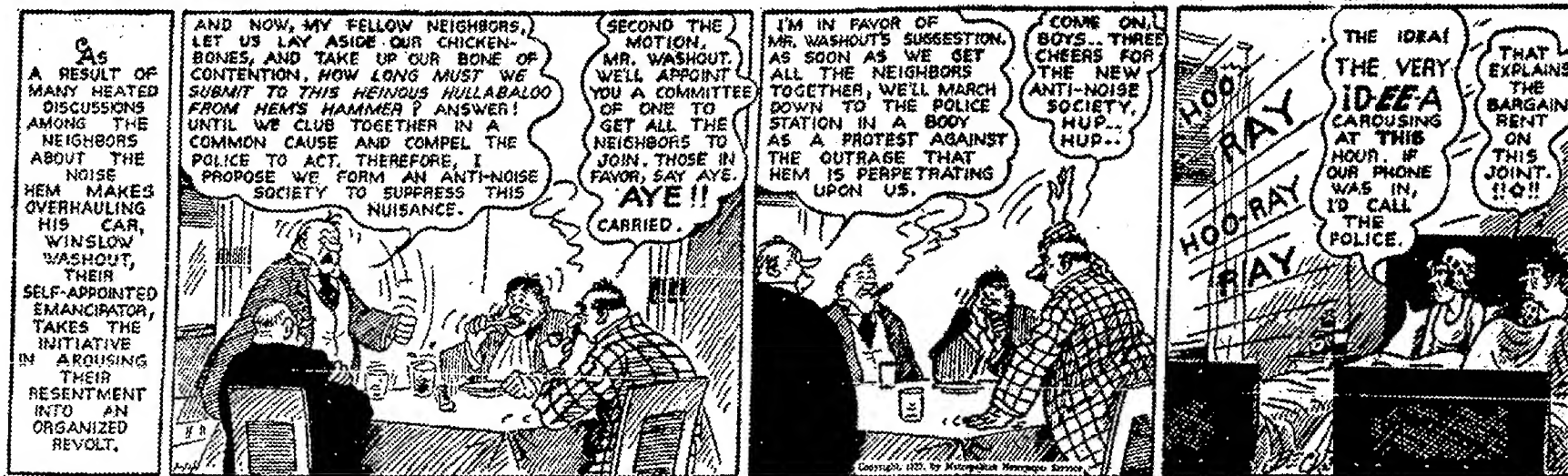
By FRANK BECK



January 14, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

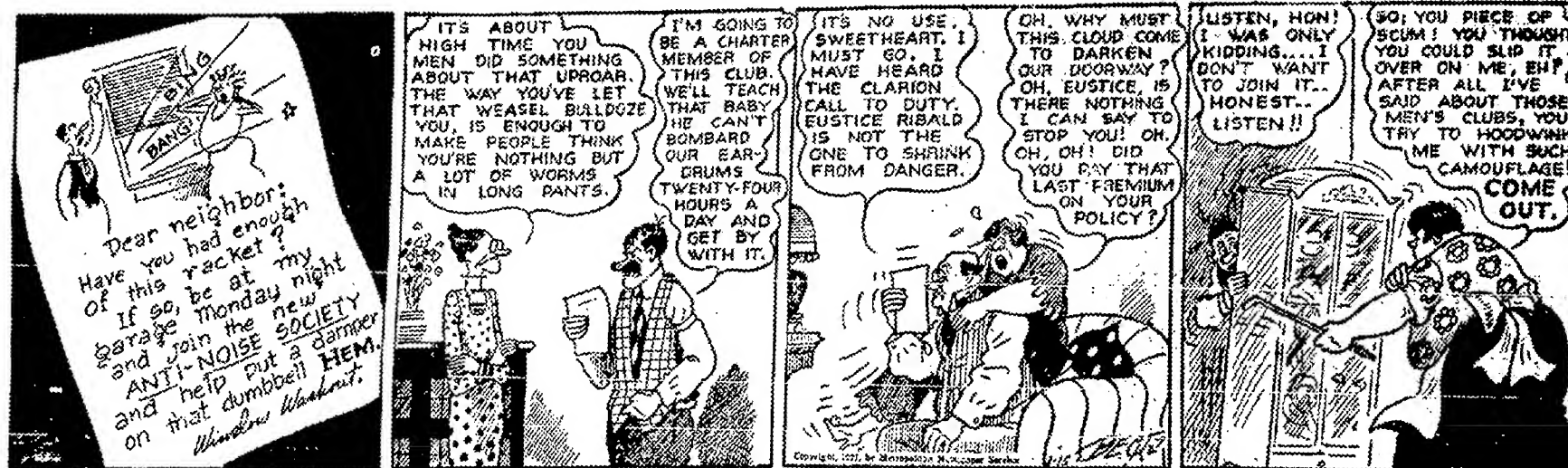
By FRANK BECK



January 15, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



January 17, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



January 18, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

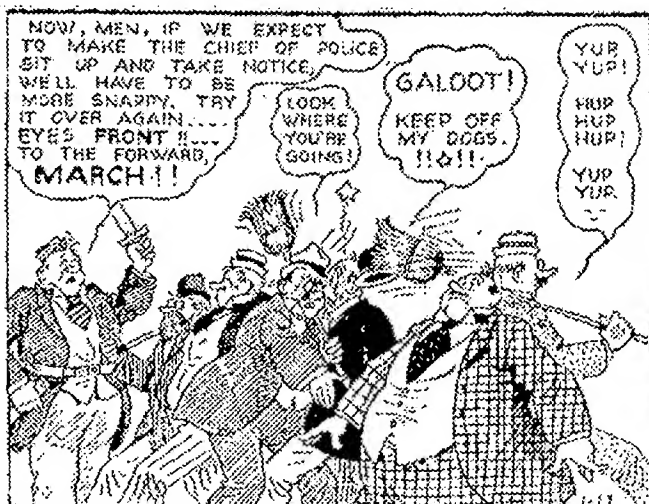
By FRANK BECK



January 19, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN WATCHING PARADES HAS TAUGHT WINSLOW WITHOUT THE VALUE OF PREPAREDNESS, SO HE IS LEAVING NOTHING TO CHANCE, WHEN THE ANTI-NOISE SOCIETY MARCHES TO THE POLICE STATION TO PROTEST HEM'S DECISION THAT NIGHT WAS THE BEST TIME TO OVERHAUL A CAR.



To The Ladies



January 20, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Hurry Up, Winslow

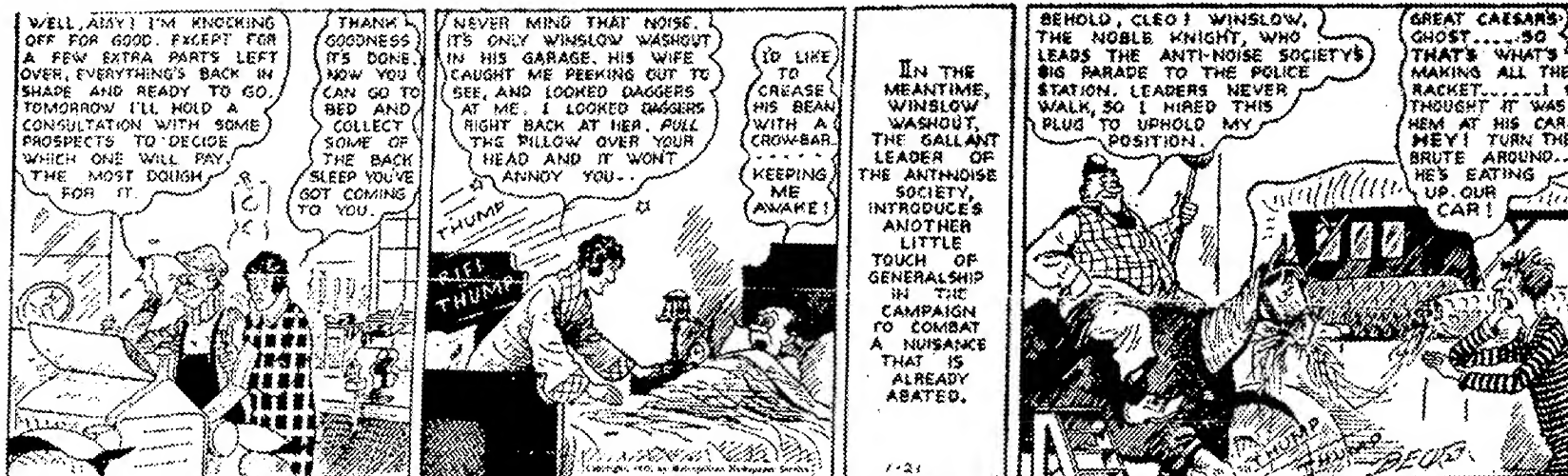
WHILE THEIR HUSBANDS ARE PREPARING FOR THE IMPENDING PARADE OF PROTEST BY THE ANTI-NOISE SOCIETY, THEIR WIVES, WHO HAVE HAD TO LIE AWAKE NIGHTS JUST AS LATE AS THEY DID, LISTENING TO HEM OVERHAULING HIS CAR, ARE RELIEVING THEIR BENT-UP FEELINGS BY DOING THEIR BIT.



January 21, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

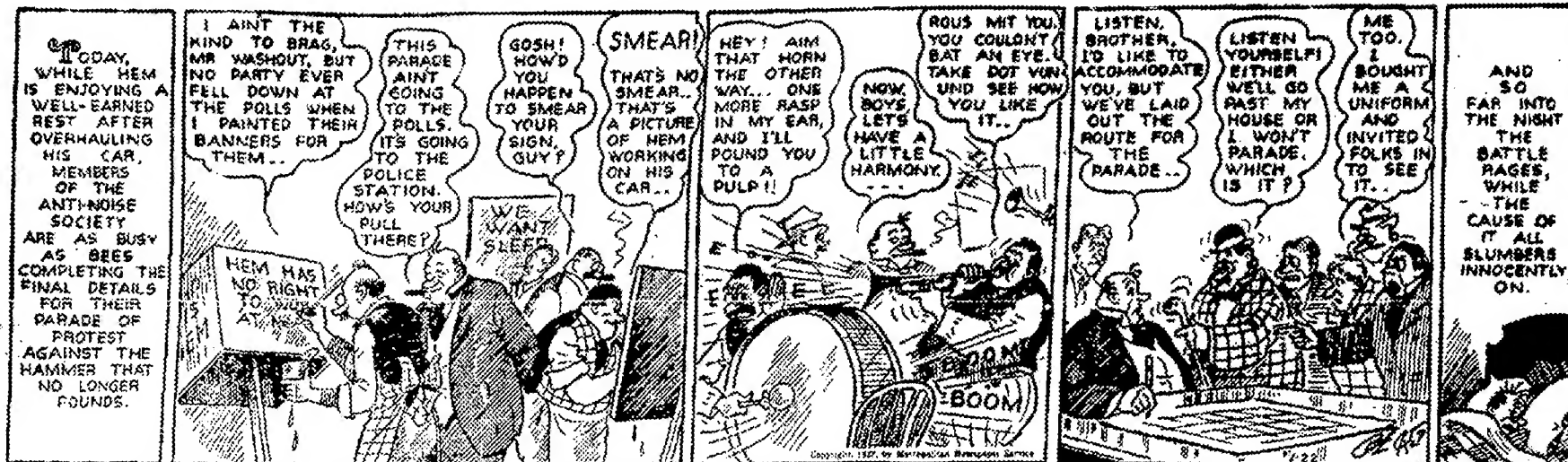
By FRANK BECK



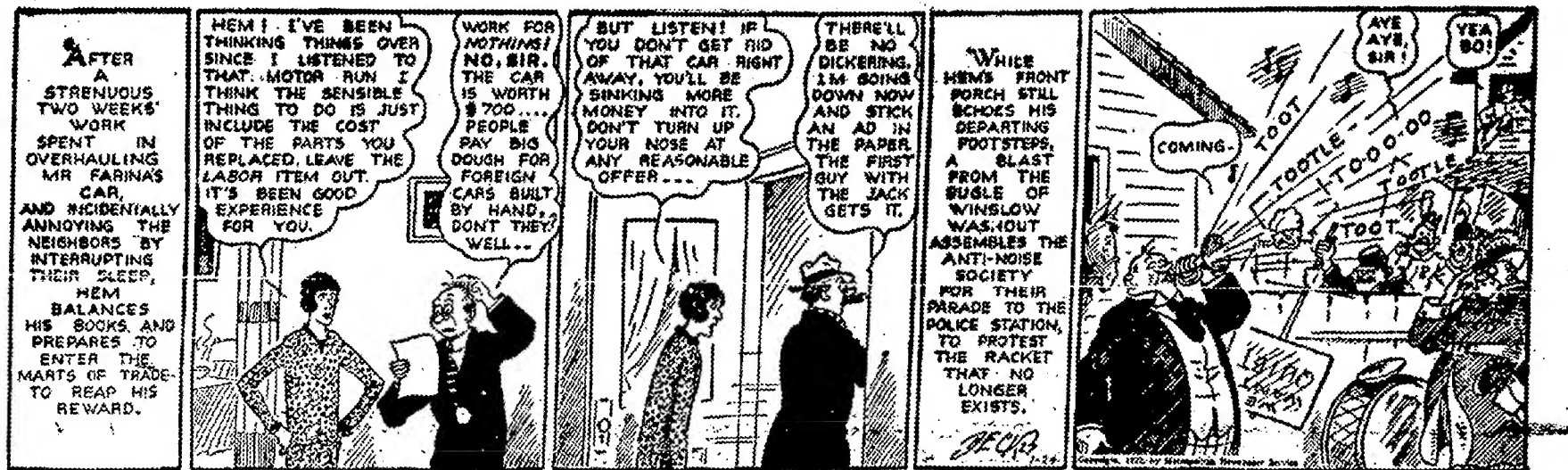
January 22, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



By FRANK BECK

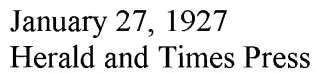


January 25, 1927
Daily Herald

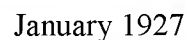
By FRANK BECK



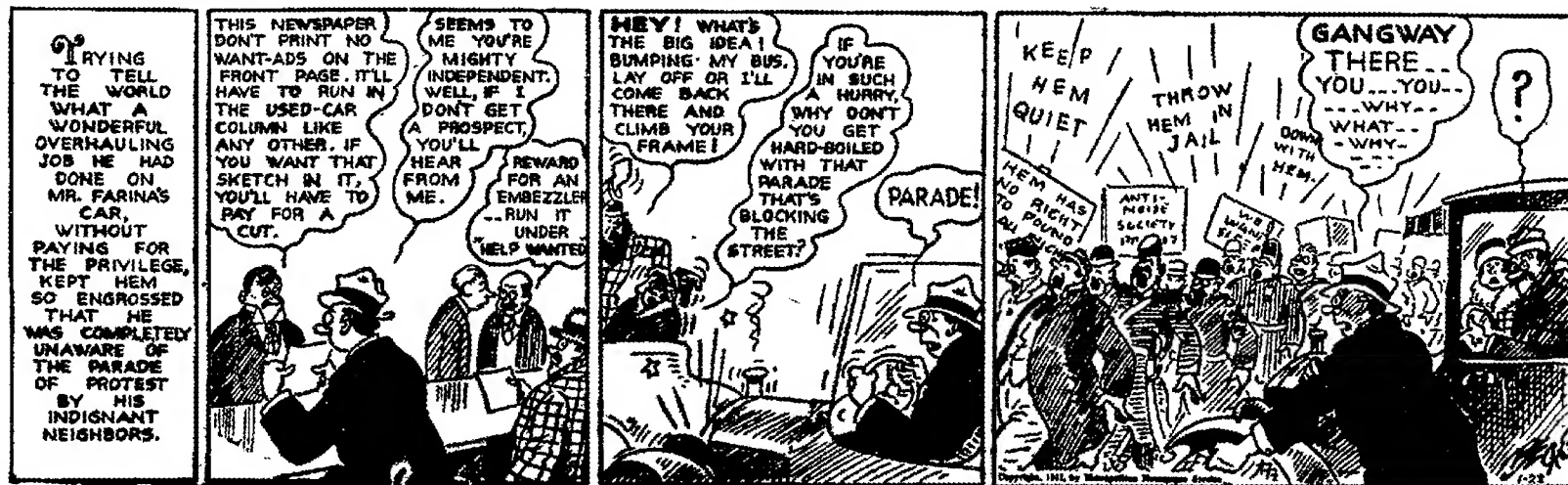
The Parade Takes In Too Much Territory



By FRANK BECK

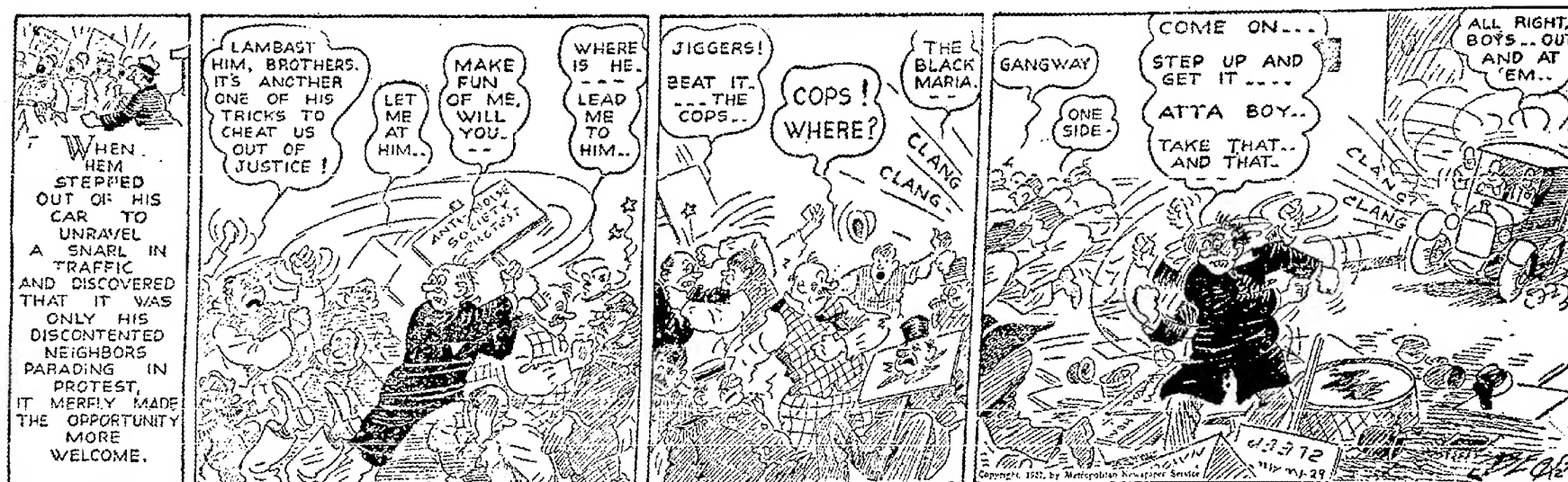


By Beck



GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



January 31, 1927
Daily Herald Times-Press

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

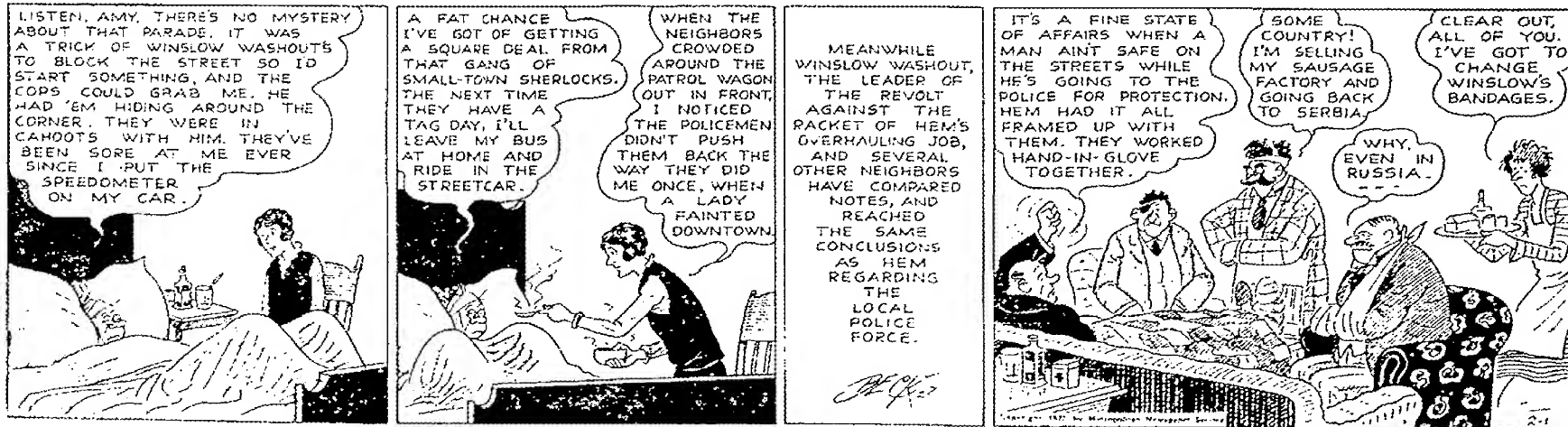


February 1, 1927
 Portsmouth Times

GAS BUGGIES

The Post Mortem

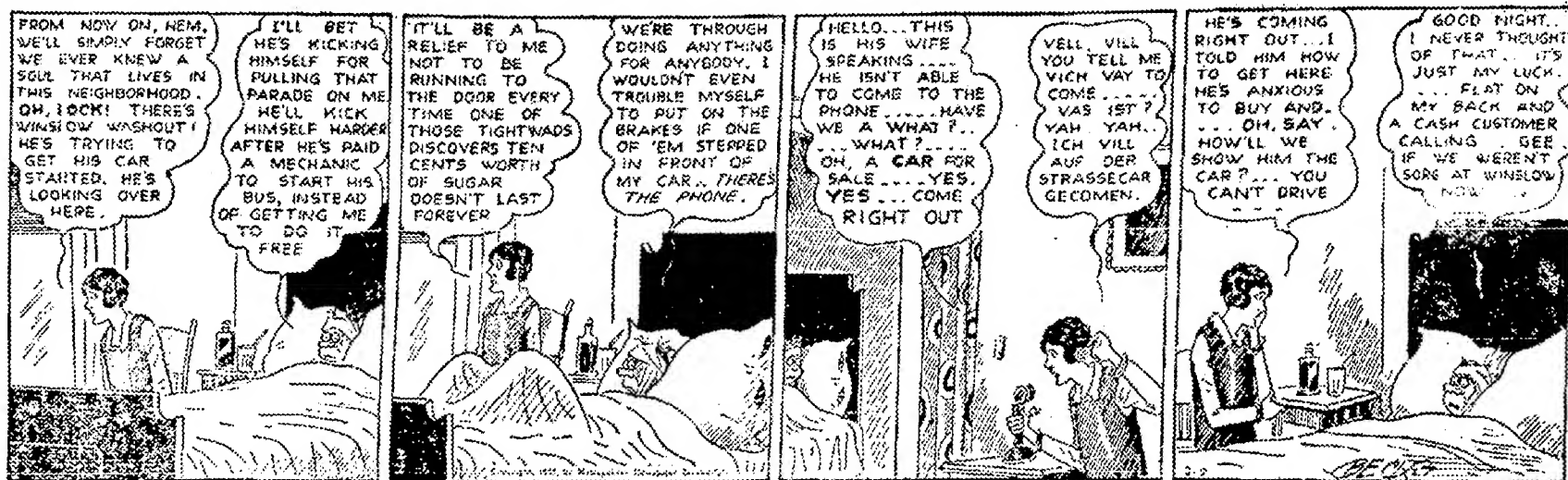
BY FRANK BECK



February 2, 1927
 Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

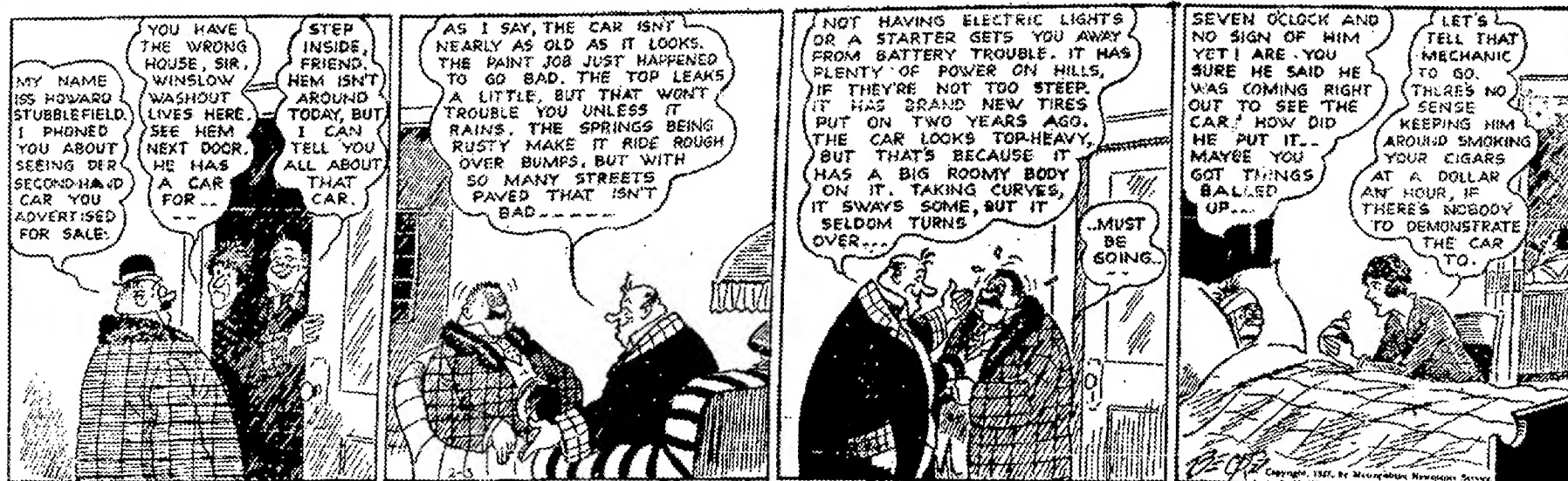
By FRANK BECK



February 3, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

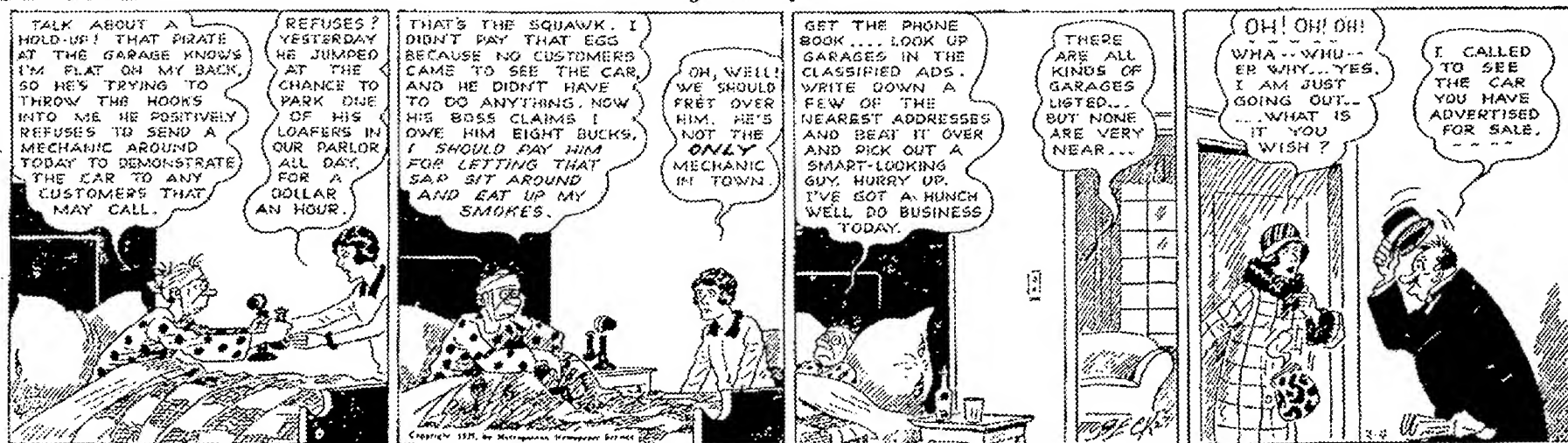


February 4, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

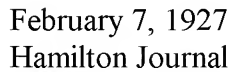
GAS BUGGIES

Getting In Deeper

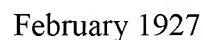
BY FRANK BECK



By FRANK BECK



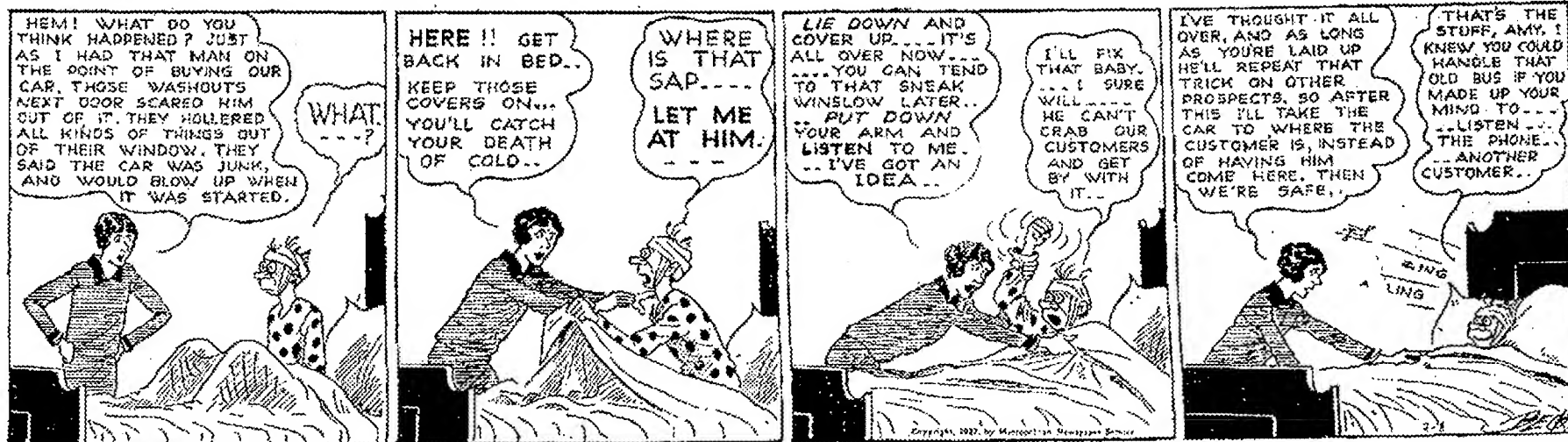
Listen, Everybody!



February 8, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

Amy Gets a Bright Idea



February 9, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

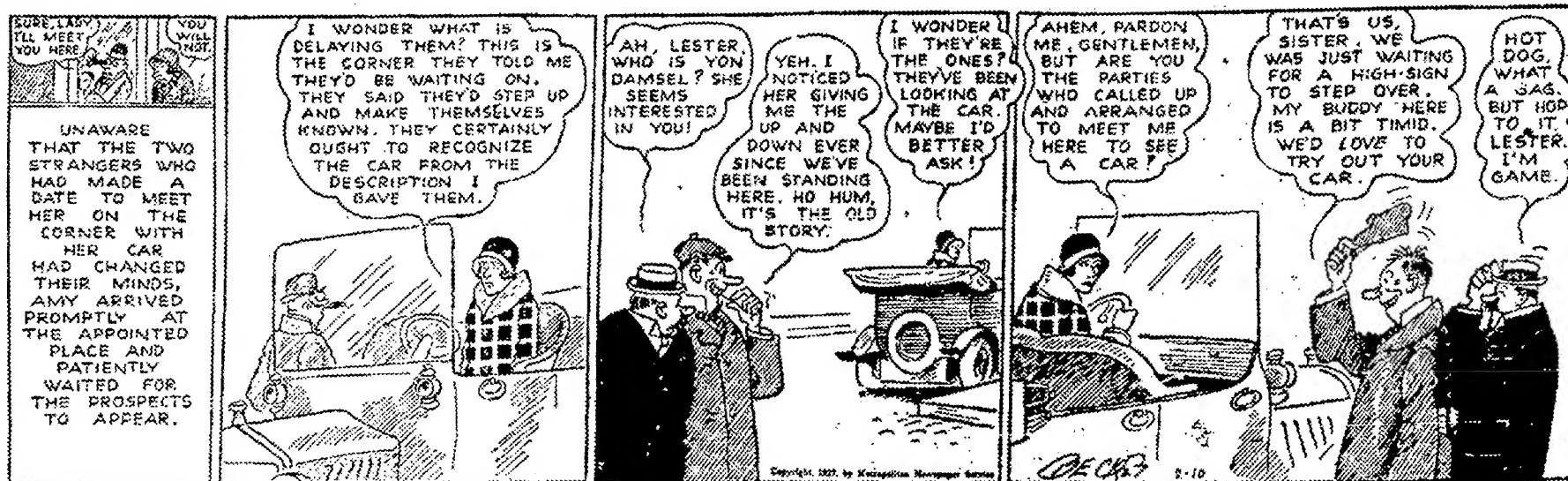
Somebody Else Gets a Bright Idea



February 10, 1927
Middletown Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

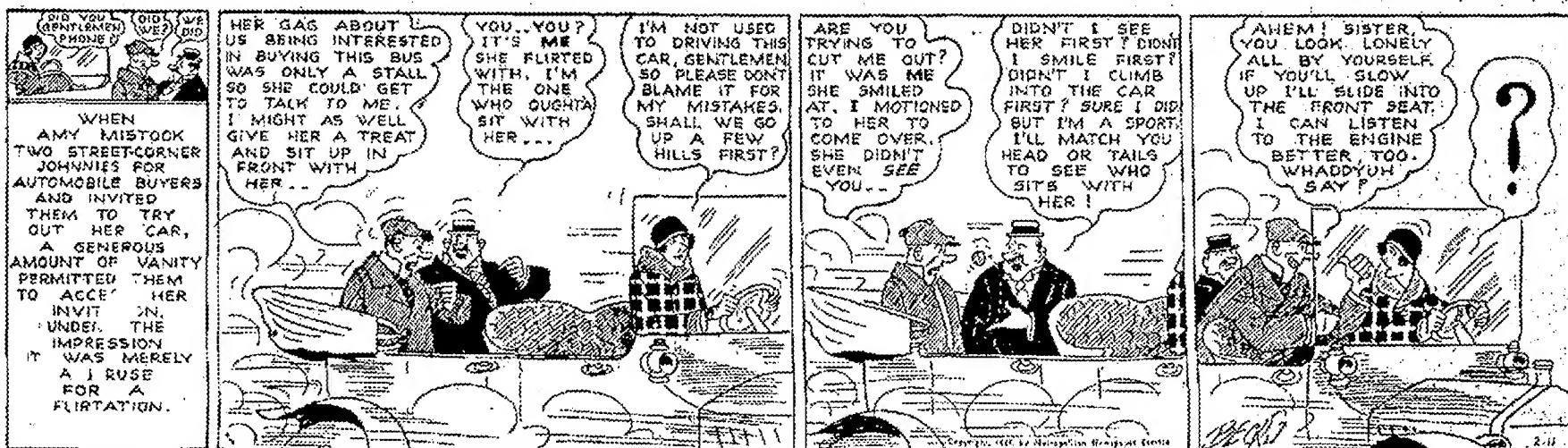
By FRANK BECK



February 11, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

What's This!



February 12, 1927
Decatur Herald

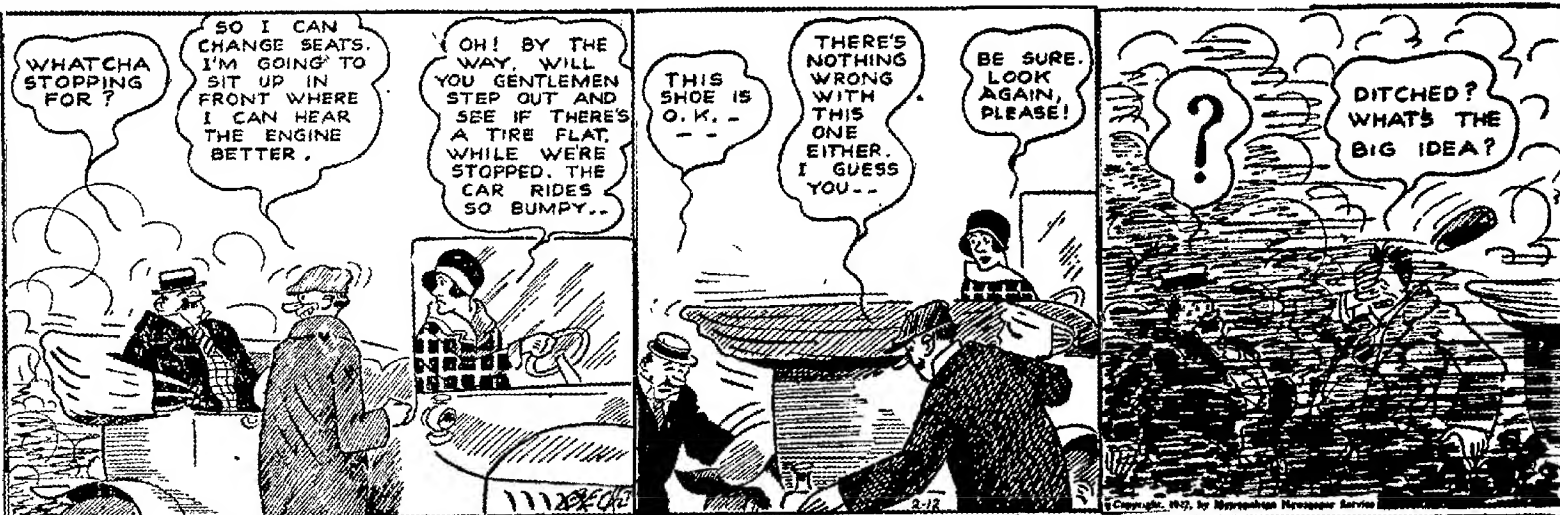
GAS BUGGIES

Foiled.

By

**FRANK
BECK**

CAUSE LACK OF INTEREST IN DISCUSSING THE CAR AND AN OVEREAGERNESS TO SHARE THE FRONT SEAT DISPLAYED BY THE TWO STRANGERS WHOM AMY HAD MISTAKEN FOR AUTOMOBILE BUYERS, AROUSED HER SUSPICIONS REGARDING THEIR SINCERITY.



February 14, 1927
Decatur Herald

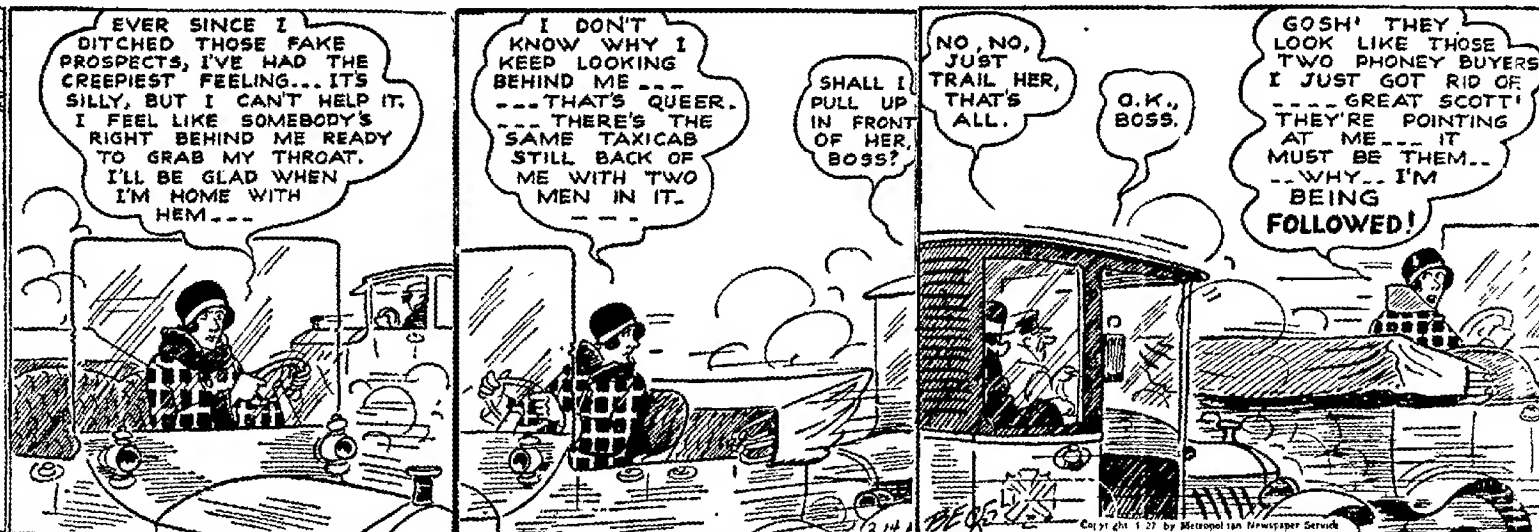
GAS BUGGIES

Step on
the Gas,
Amy!

By

**FRANK
BECK**

ALTHOUGH AMY SUCCEEDED IN EVICTING FROM HER CAR THE TWO STRANGERS SHE HAD MISTAKEN AS AUTOMOBILE BUYERS, SHE COULD NOT SHAKE OFF A FEELING OF FEAR THAT FOLLOWED HER AS SHE HURRIED HOMEWARD.



February 15, 1927
Decatur Herald

GAS BUGGIES
Safe at Home
By **FRANK BECK**

WHEN AMY GLANCED BACKWARDS AND SAW A TAXI TRAILING HER, IN WHICH WERE TWO MEN WHO RESEMBLED THE ALLEGED AUTO BUYERS SHE HAD JUST DITCHED, HER FEELING OF BEING FOLLOWED WAS CONFIRMED, AND SHE FLEW FOR HOME IN A FRENZY OF FEAR.

I'M BEING FOLLOWED!

COME ON, OLD BUS!!
THEY'RE RIGHT BEHIND US--
DO YOUR STUFF--

STEP ON THE GAS, DRIVER.

HERE THEY COME...I'M JUST IN TIME.
--OH, HEM!
HEM!

QUICK, HEM! BOLT THE DOOR! TWO MEN ARE FOLLOWING ME-- I PUT THEM OUT OF THE CAR. THEY WERE FAKE PROSPECTS-- THEY'RE RIGHT OUTSIDE--

WHAT MEN?
WHO'S OUTSIDE?
I DON'T HEAR ANYBODY--
WHERE?

PHONIES, EH?
WHICH TAXI ARE THEY IN-- THAT ONE RIGHT THERE?
THE ONE BY OUR DRIVE?

YES, YES THAT'S IT--
THEY'RE GETTING OUT--
WHAT IF THEY TRY TO BREAK IN--
WHAT'LL WE DO?

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February 16, 1927
Decatur Herald

GAS BUGGIES
Atta Boy, Hem.
By **FRANK BECK**

DO YOU MEAN TO SAY THE TWO PHONIES IN THAT TAXI DOWNSTAIRS PRETENDED THEY WERE PROSPECTS, SO YOU'D TAKE 'EM JOY-RIDING IN OUR BUS! AND THEY HAD THE CRUST TO TRAIL YOU HOME AFTER YOU DITCHED THEM?

AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT THEY LAUGHED AT ME--

HEMENSLEY!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
HEM!!

I'M GOING TO MAKE THOSE WISE EGGS DO A LITTLE HA-HA-ING OUT OF THE OTHER SIDE OF THEIR MUGS--

HEM!
STOP--
YOU CAN'T GO OUTSIDE LOOKING LIKE THAT--
--ALL THE NEIGHBORS WILL--

HANG THE NEIGHBORS!
LET GO OF THAT CLUB--
STAND ASIDE.

HEM!!
COME BACK HERE!!
HEM--

JOY-RIDE AROUND IN MY CAR, WILL THEY? I'LL SHOW 'EM. I'LL GIVE 'EM ANOTHER FAST RIDE, BUT THEY WON'T BE CONSCIOUS TO ENJOY IT--

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February 17, 1927
Decatur Herald

GAS BUGGIES

How Come?

By
FRANK BECK

HEY, YOU!
COME OUT OF THAT TAXI--
I'LL TEACH YOU TO TRICK MY WIFE--
COME OUT HERE--

??

WHEN AMY TOLD HEM HOW SHE HAD BEEN IMPOSED UPON BY THE FAKE, AUTO BUYERS-- AND FOLLOWED HOME BY A STRANGE TAXI, HE HOPPED OUT OF BED AND TOOK THE SHORTEST CUT HE KNEW OF TO GET JUSTICE.

MY DEAR SIR, THIS IS AN OUTRAGE-- I PROTEST--
--I-I--

LET GO OF THAT SEAT--
COME OUT HERE--

HEM!!
WAIT-- IT'S ALL A MISTAKE!!
THOSE AREN'T THE MEN WHO POSED AS PROSPECTS.

WHAT?

LET GO OF MY NECK, YOU RUFFIAN...

COME ON, BETSY-- THIS AINT NO PLACE FOR US--

Copyright, 1927, by Metropolitan Newspaper Service

February 18, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Tough Luck

BY FRANK BECK

YOU SAY THESE AREN'T THE MEN WHO POSED AS PROSPECTS AND WENT JOY-RIDING IN OUR CAR?? BUT THEY WERE IN THE TAXI THAT TRAILED YOU HOME!

HOW DARE YOU DRAG US OUT OF A TAXI, LIKE A SACK OF SPUDS?

RELEASE ME INSTANTLY, HELP! POLICE!

MARK MY WORDS, YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, AND YOU'LL PAY THROUGH THE NOSE TOO--

YOU PUT MY LAMP OUT-- I'LL SUE YOU FOR DAMAGES-- BIG DAMAGES-- \$10,000-- NO, I'LL MAKE IT \$50,000-- --NO-- \$100,000--

CALL A COP!

ALL RIGHT, IF YOU WON'T LISTEN TO REASON, GO AHEAD AND SUE-- I SHOULD WORRY-- YOU CAN'T GET BLOOD OUT OF A TURNIP--

HEM! DON'T MAKE MATTERS WORSE BY CLIMBING ON YOUR HIGH HORSE-- ASK THEM WHAT BUSINESS THEY HAD FOLLOWING ME IN A TAXI?

YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED, FRIEND!

DON'T THINK YOU CAN FIND AN OUT FOR YOURSELF BY TRYING TO COMPLICATE THIS AFFAIR. THE REASON WE TRAILED HER CAR WAS, WE WANTED ONE JUST LIKE IT, AND WE WERE GOING TO ASK IF IT WAS FOR SALE-- THAT'S WHY--

MY ADDRESS? --THE ACTOR'S CLUB, I'M NOT LIVING THERE JUST NOW, BUT ANY MAIL WILL REACH ME.

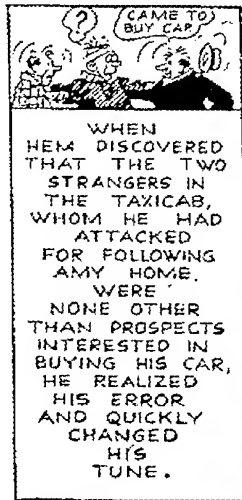
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February 19, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

A Different Story

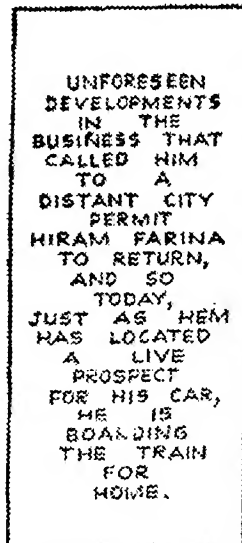
BY FRANK BECK



February 21, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



February 22, 1927
Decatur Herald

GAS BUGGIES

Going—
Going—!

By
FRANK
BECK

THREE MORE DAYS, HIRAM (AND WERE HOME)
UNAWARE THAT HIRAM FARINA IS RETURNING HOME UNEXPECTEDLY AND WANTS TO KEEP HIS CAR, HEM, WHO WAS COMMISSIONED TO SELL IT, CONTINUES HIS EFFORTS TO CONVINCE THE TWO STRANGERS THAT THEY ARE GETTING THE BARGAIN OF A LIFE-TIME IN THIS BUS.

YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF, GENTLEMEN, THE CAR IS IN ITS PRIME OF LIFE. I COULD EASILY GET MORE FOR IT, BUT ON ACCOUNT OF THAT LITTLE TUSSELE WE HAD IN THE TAXI, I'LL SHAVE THE PRICE DOWN TO \$700. YOU'LL HAVE TO ADMIT THAT'S SOME BARGAIN.

WELL...I'M NOT SAYING THIS SO YOU WILL COME DOWN IN THE PRICE, BUT IT COULD HARDLY BE CLASSED AS ONE OF THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD.

IF MR. FARINA HADN'T BEEN CALLED AWAY, HE WOULDN'T HAVE PARTED WITH IT FOR ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD. HIS LOSS IS YOUR GAIN...HE'S GIVING IT AWAY... A BUS LIKE THAT IS AS RARE AS A MILLION DOLLAR BILL.

THE MOTOR MAY BE ALL O.K., BUT THE BODY LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN BRUSHED OFF WITH A BARBED-WIRE FENCE.

LISTEN, FRIEND, GRAB IT WHILE YOU GOT THE CHANCE --- TOMORROW IT MAY BE GONE. IF IT'S THE PRICE.. I'LL MAKE IT \$695. ON A CASH DEAL!!

WE'LL HAVE TO CONSULT OUR BOSS. WE'RE BUYING IT FOR HIM.. WE'LL TELL HIM ABOUT IT. IF HE SAYS ITS O.K., THE CAR IS SOLD. COME ON, BILL.

February 23, 1927
Decatur Herald

GAS BUGGIES

Waiting.

By
FRANK
BECK

\$700. \$695. (NO-00)
WHILE HEM'S DEAL WITH THE TWO STRANGERS, TO BUY HIRAM FARINA'S CAR, IS DRAGGING ALONG, THAT WORTHY GENTLEMAN IS SPEEDING HOMEWARD ON THE FAST FLIER AT SIXTY MILES AN HOUR.

TWO MORE DAYS AND WE'LL BE HOME, THANK HEAVENS. I'M SICK OF BEING COOPED UP ON THIS TRAIN LIKE SARDINES IN A BOX, I WISH WE WERE IN OUR CAR, HIRAM. I'LL NEVER BE WITHOUT IT AGAIN.

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW TILL WE'RE BOUNCING AROUND IN THE OLD BUS AGAIN. I WOULDN'T PART WITH IT NOW FOR A MILLION BUCKS.

HEM ALSO IS DAY-DREAMING ABOUT THE OLD BUS, BUT HE IS HAVING VISIONS OF AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT NATURE.

WELL, OLD DEAR, THAT CAR IS JUST AS GOOD AS SOLD. WHEN THOSE BABIES GET IT THROUGH THEIR THICK SKULLS THAT THEY CAN'T KID ME DOWN IN MY PRICE. THEY'LL KICK THROUGH WITH THE CASH.

THERE'S MANY A SLIP TWIXT THE CUP AND LIP. I'LL BELIEVE IT WHEN I SEE THE COLOR OF THEIR MONEY.

700 NICE SHINY SIMOLEONS --- HIRAM GETS 400 AND THE REST IS MY NIFTY LITTLE PROFIT. NOT SO BAD, EH? I KNOW A LOT OF THINGS I CAN DO WITH 300 BUCKS.

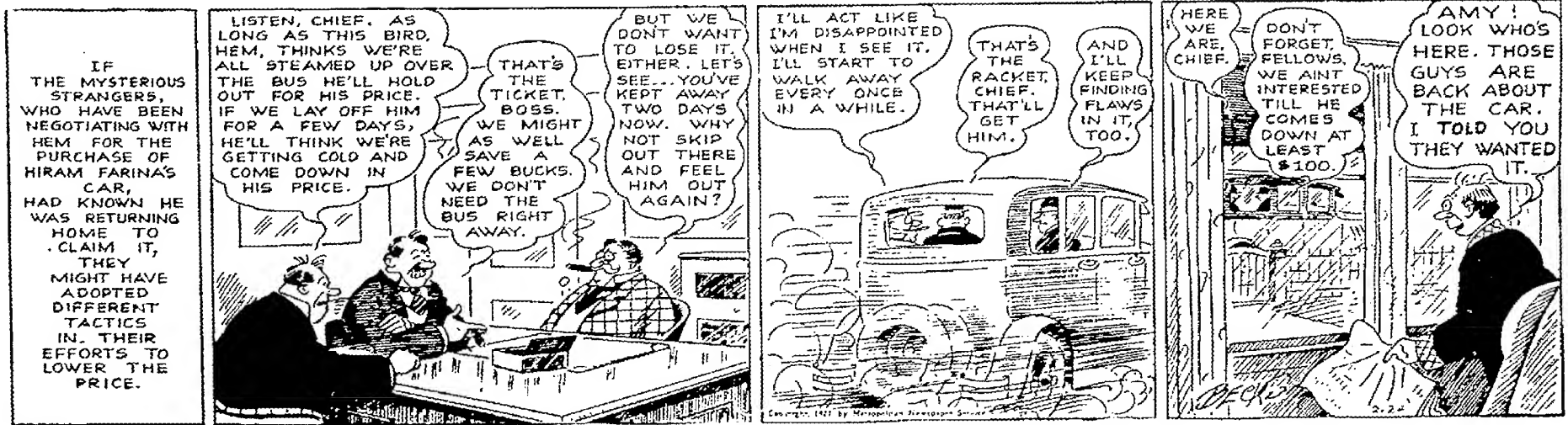
THE FIRST THING YOU'LL DO IS PAY ME BACK ABOUT 299 OF IT. REMEMBER, I PUT UP THE CASH FOR THOSE PARTS YOU HAD TO BUY.

February 24, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

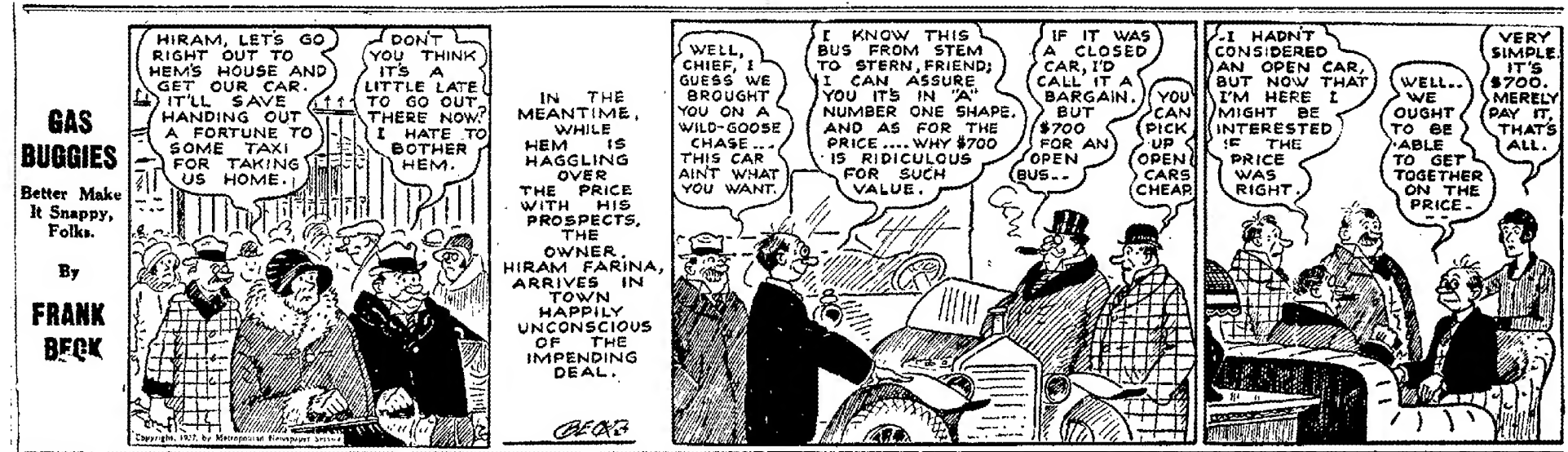
GAS BUGGIES

Such Is Business

BY FRANK BECK



February 25, 1927
Decatur Herald



February 26, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Trouble Brewing

BY FRANK BECK

LET'S GET OUR CAR RIGHT AWAY. IT'S SO LATE. WELL, BOTH OF THEM.

AND SO, WHILE THE FARINAS ARE DRIFTING APART IN THEIR DEBATE AT THE DEPOT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THEY SHOULD GO RIGHT OUT AND GET THEIR CAR, HEM AND HIS PROSPECTS ARE GETTING CLOSER TOGETHER ON A DEAL.



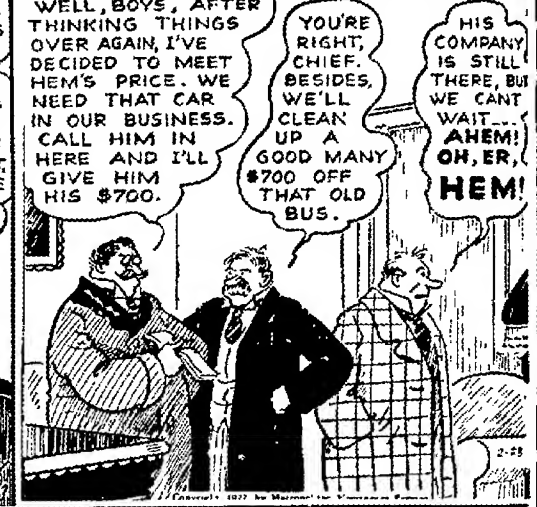
February 28, 1927
Decatur Herald

GAS BUGGIES

Hem,
Get Ready!

By
FRANK
BECK

HEM AND AMY WERE SO SURPRISED BY THE SUDDEN RETURN OF THE FARINAS, WHOSE CAR THEY ARE SELLING, THAT THEY FORGOT ALL ABOUT THE PROSPECTS IN THE NEXT ROOM WHO WERE WAITING TO CLOSE A DEAL.

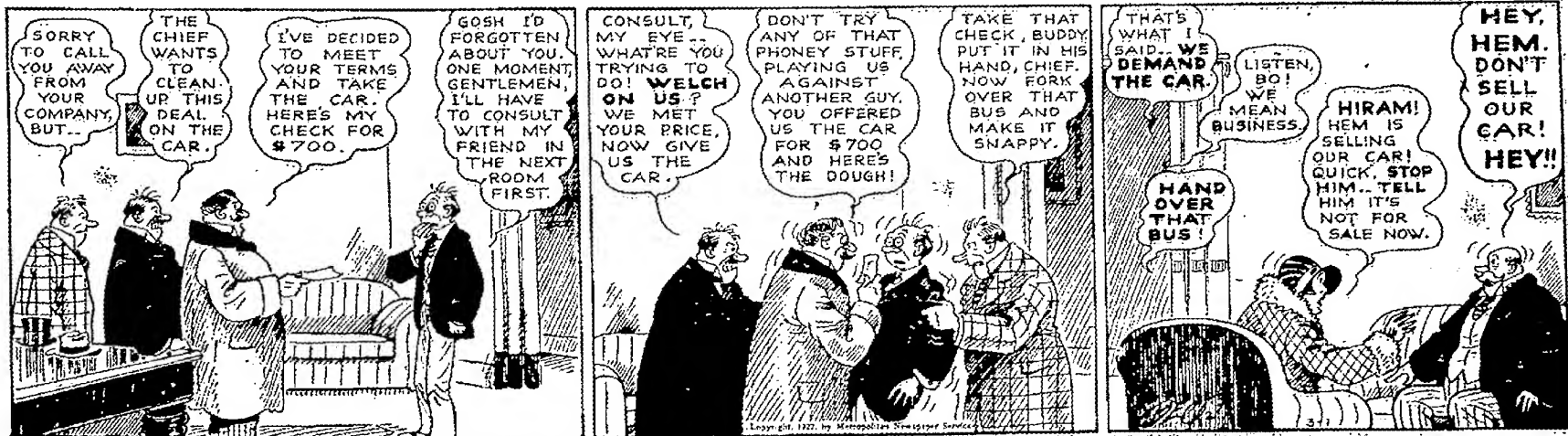


March 1, 1927
 Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Up And At 'Em, Hiram!

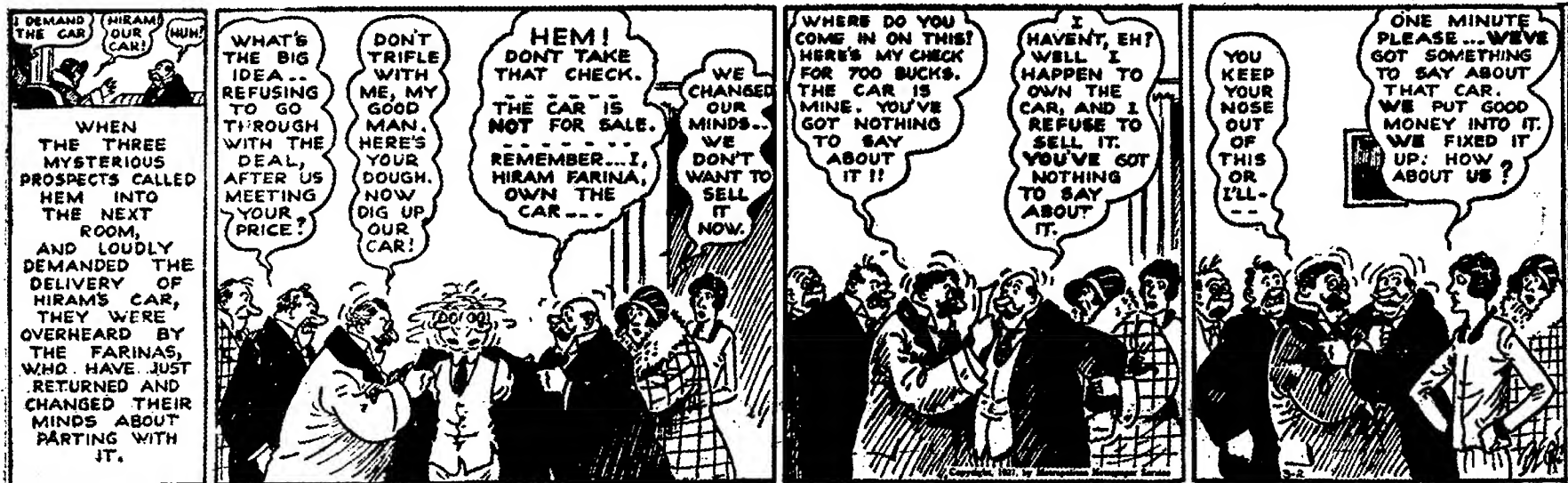
BY FRANK BECK



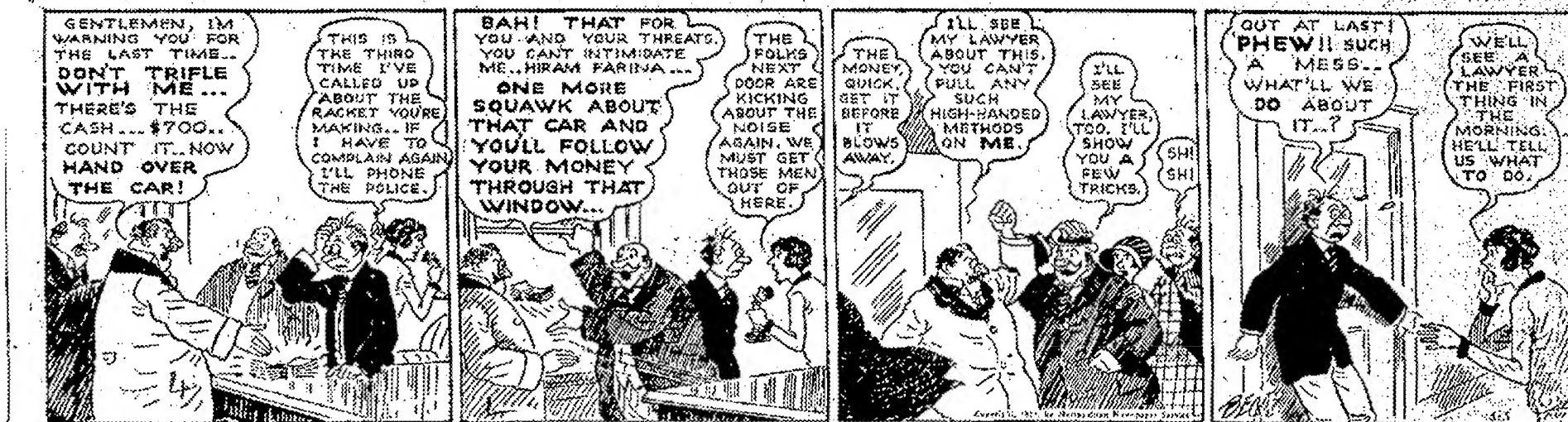
March 2, 1927
 Orange County Herald and Times Press

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



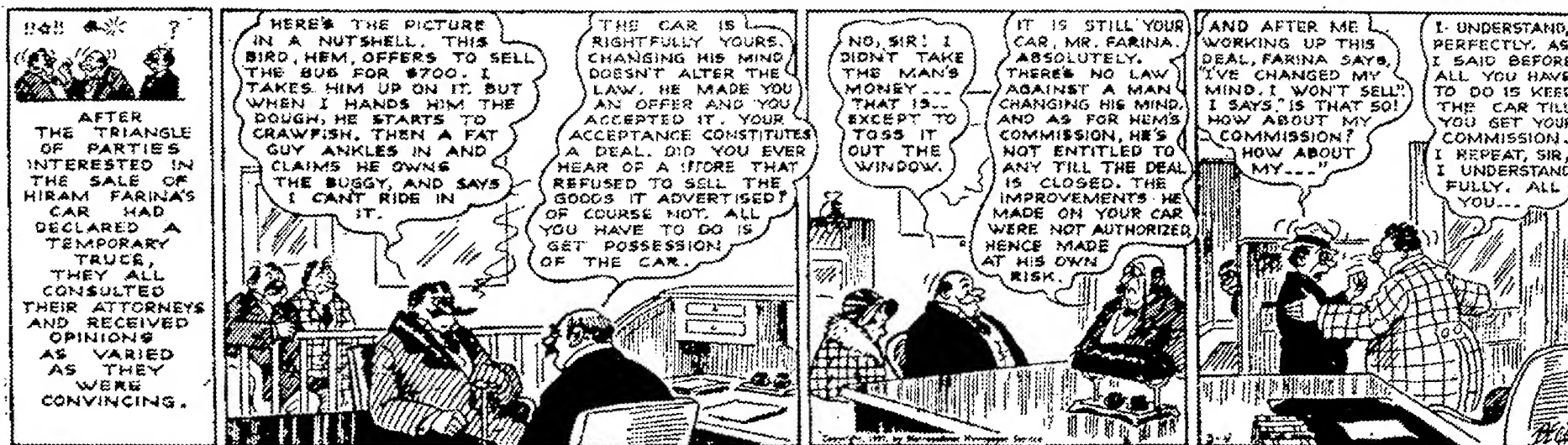
March 3, 1927
Hamilton Journal
GAS BUGGIES*



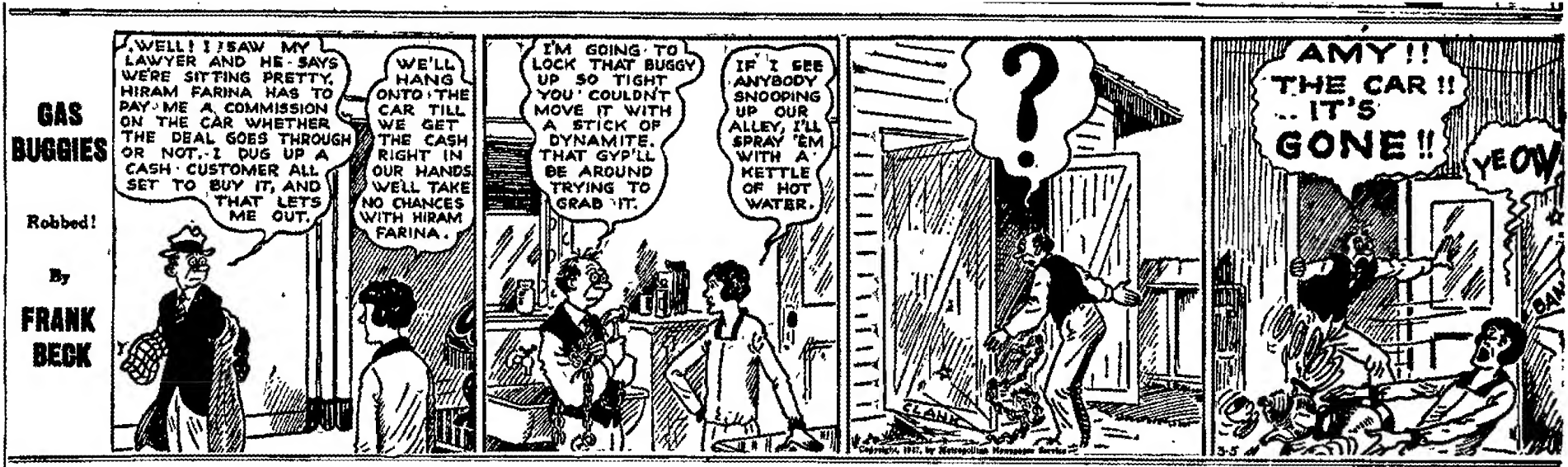
March 4, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times
GAS BUGGIES

Experts On The Job

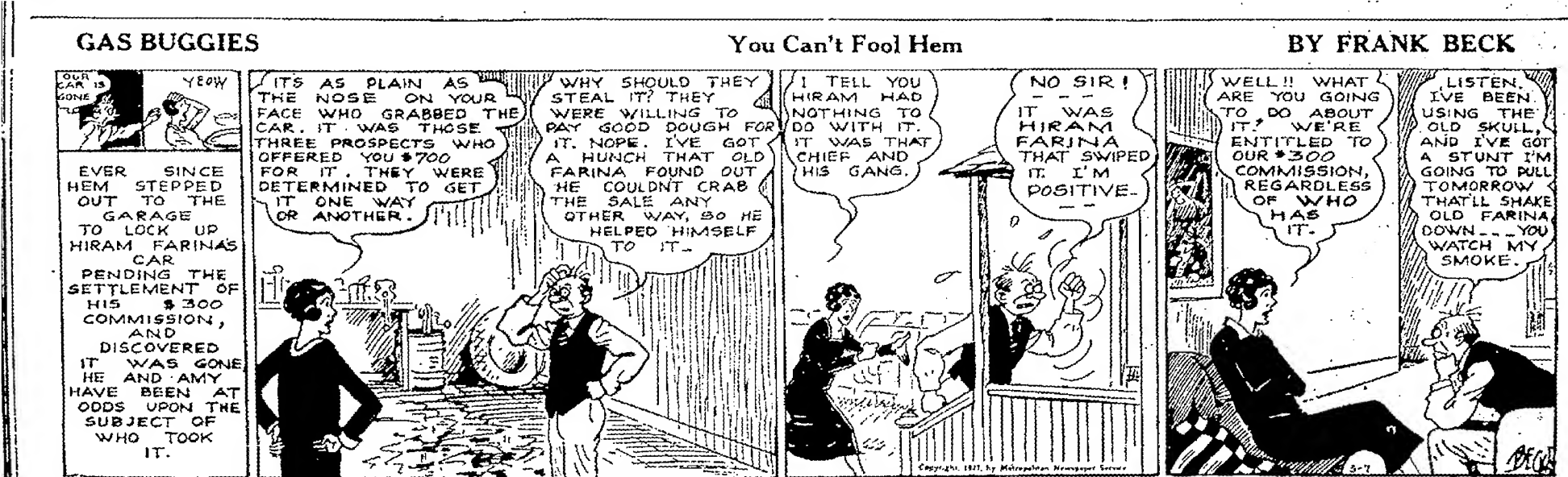
BY FRANK BECK



March 5, 1927
Decatur Herald



March 7, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times



March 8, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Riding For A Fall

BY FRANK BECK

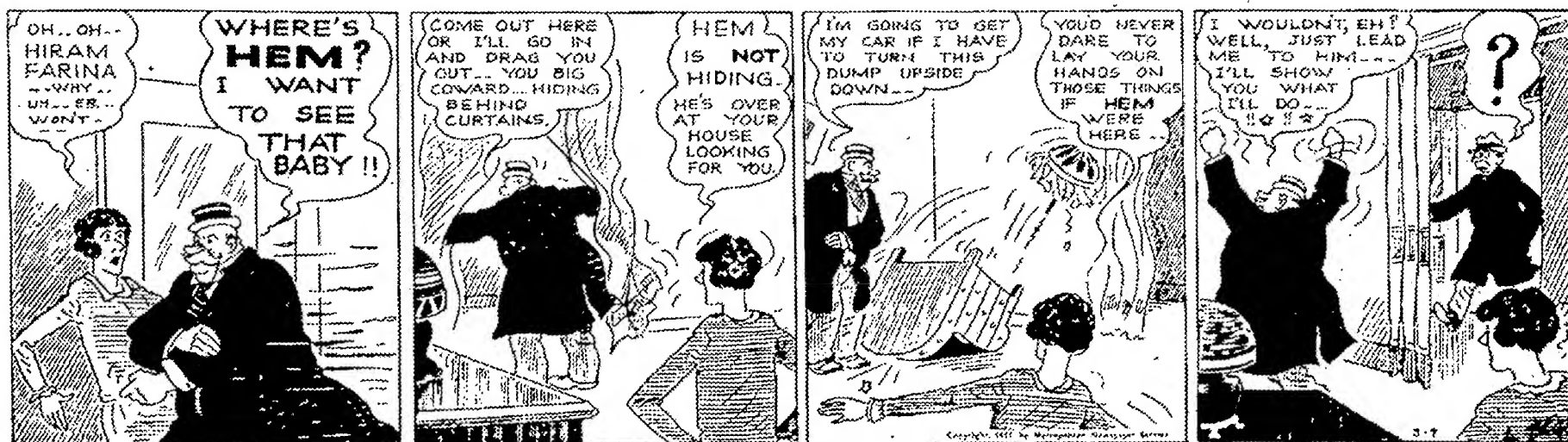


March 9, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

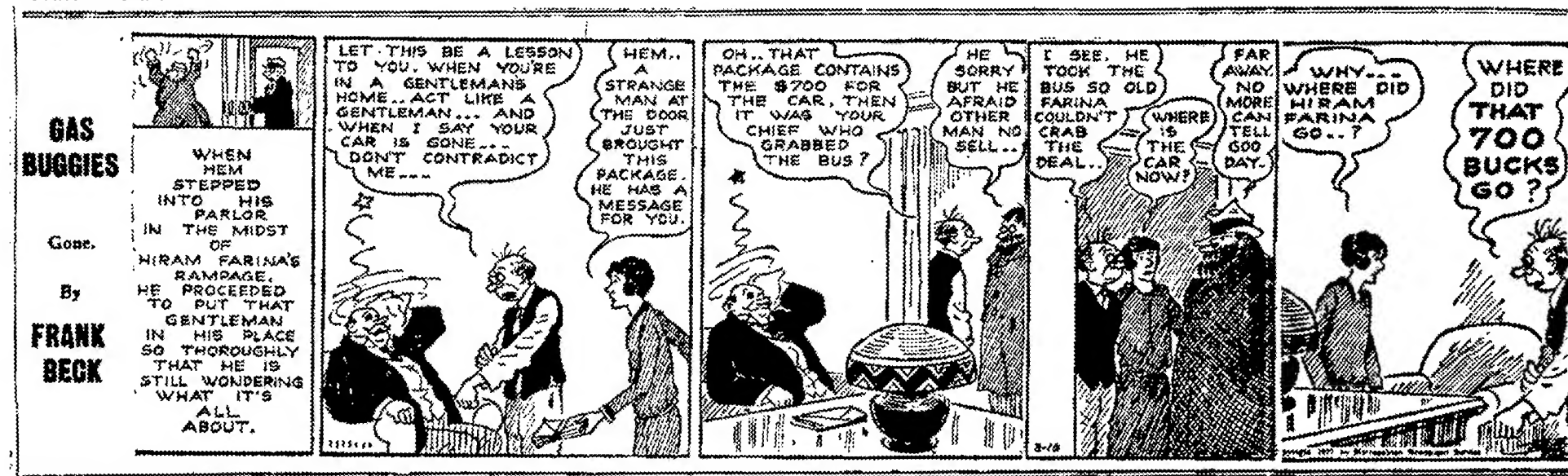
GAS BUGGIES

Looking For Trouble

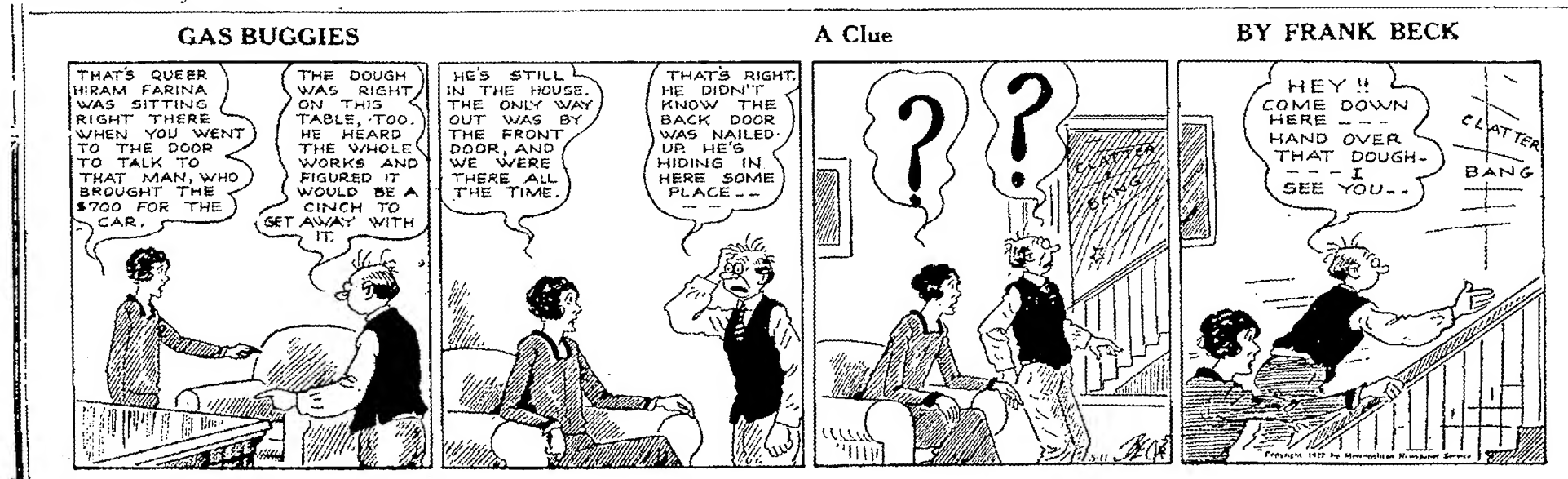
BY FRANK BECK



March 10, 1927
Decatur Herald



March 11, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

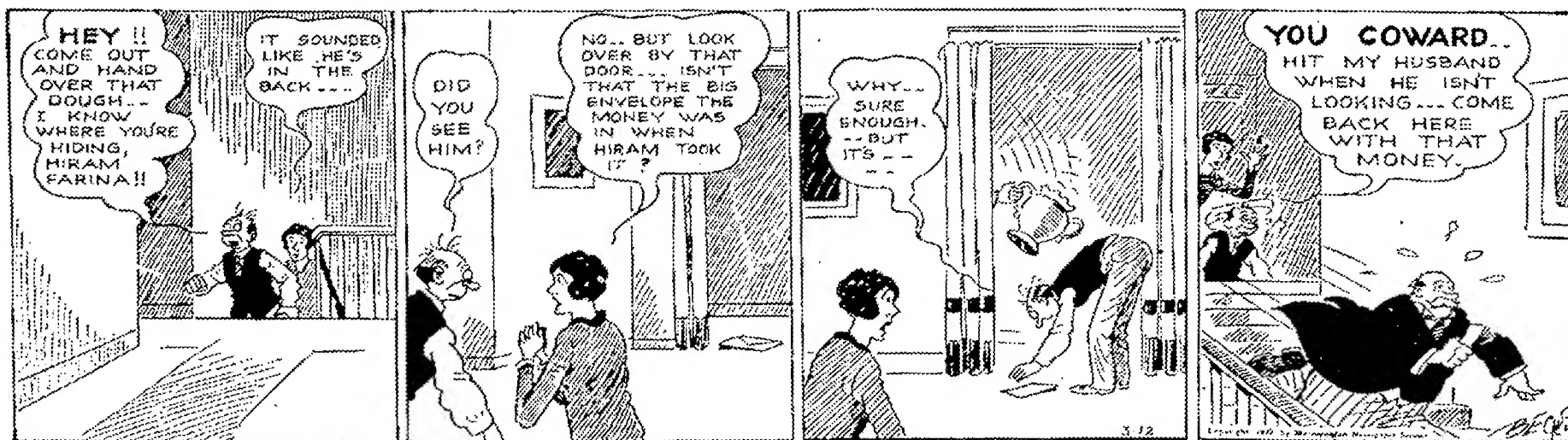


March 12, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

All's Fair In Love And War

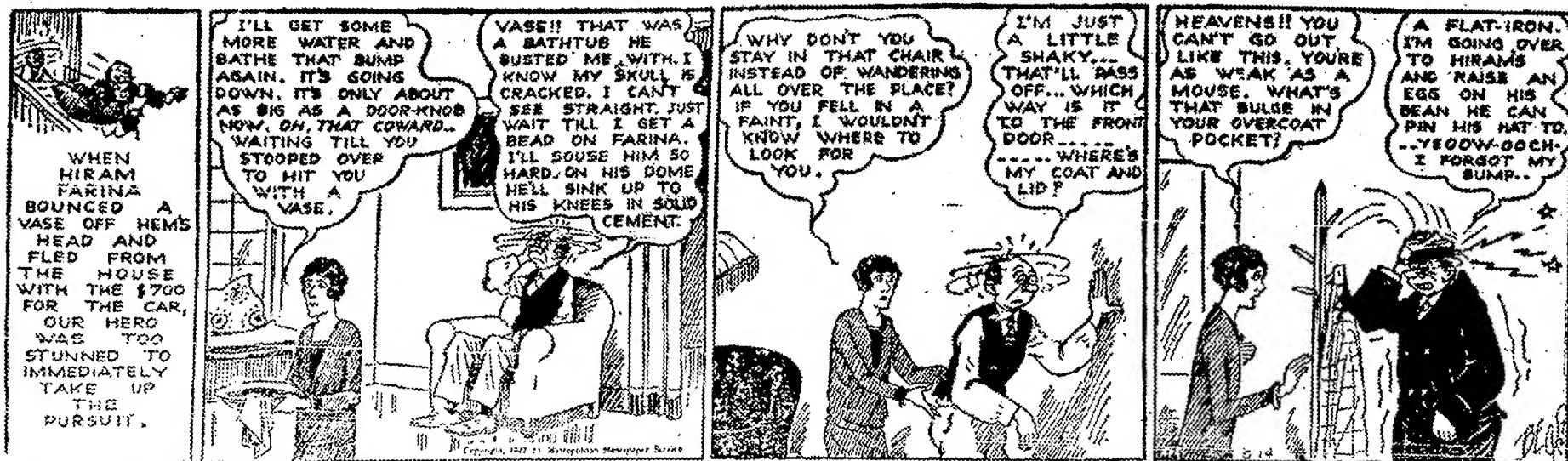
BY FRANK BECK



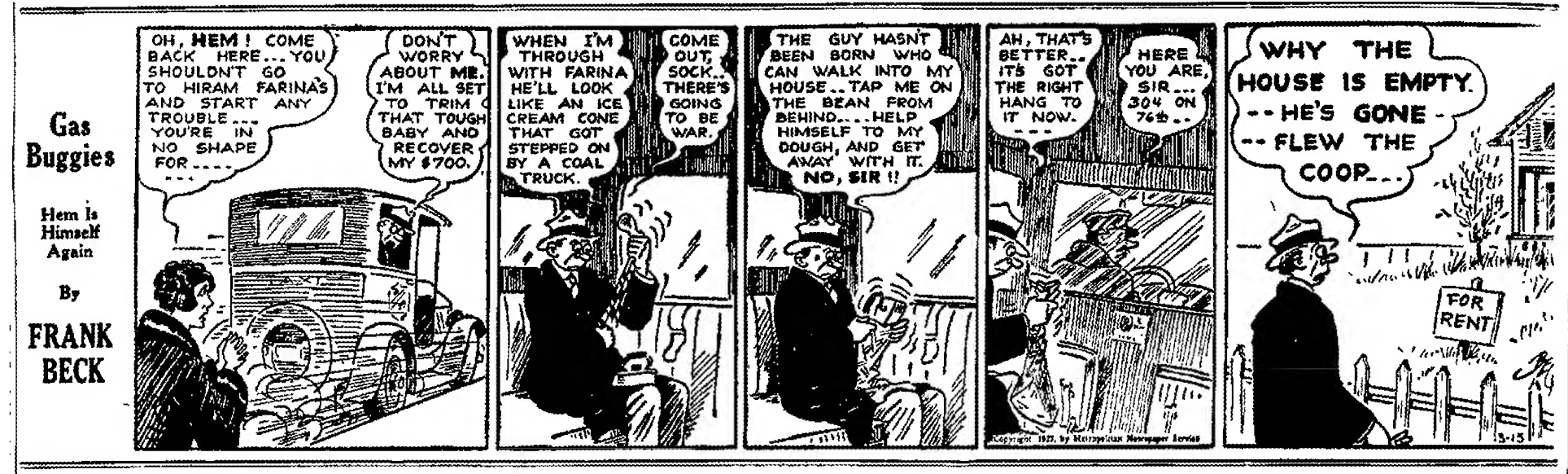
March 14, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

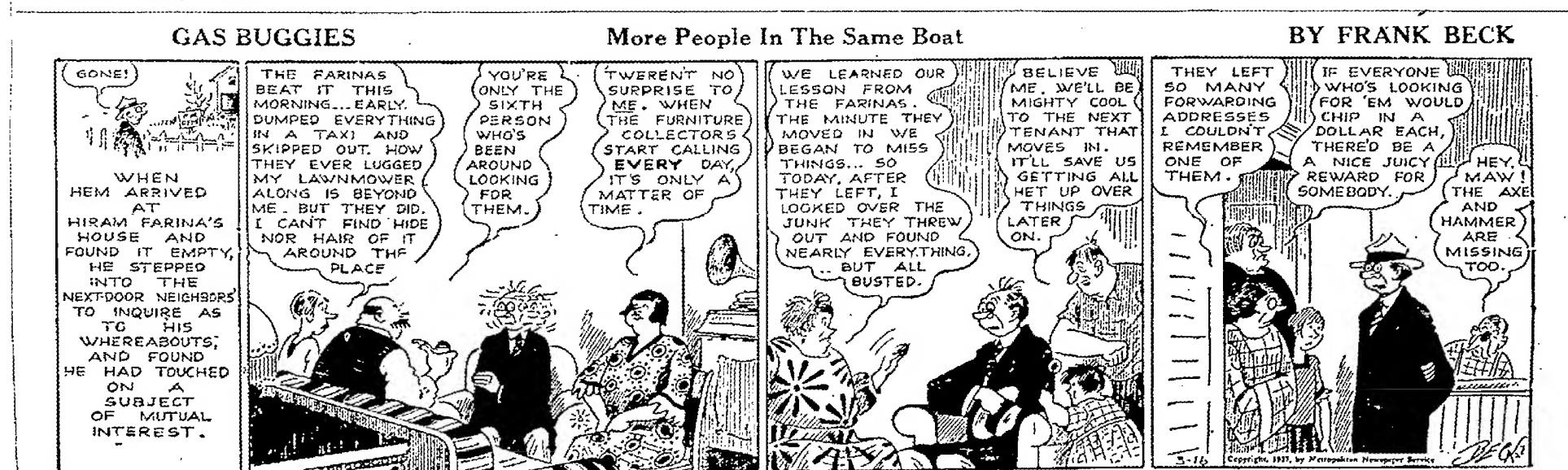
By FRANK BECK



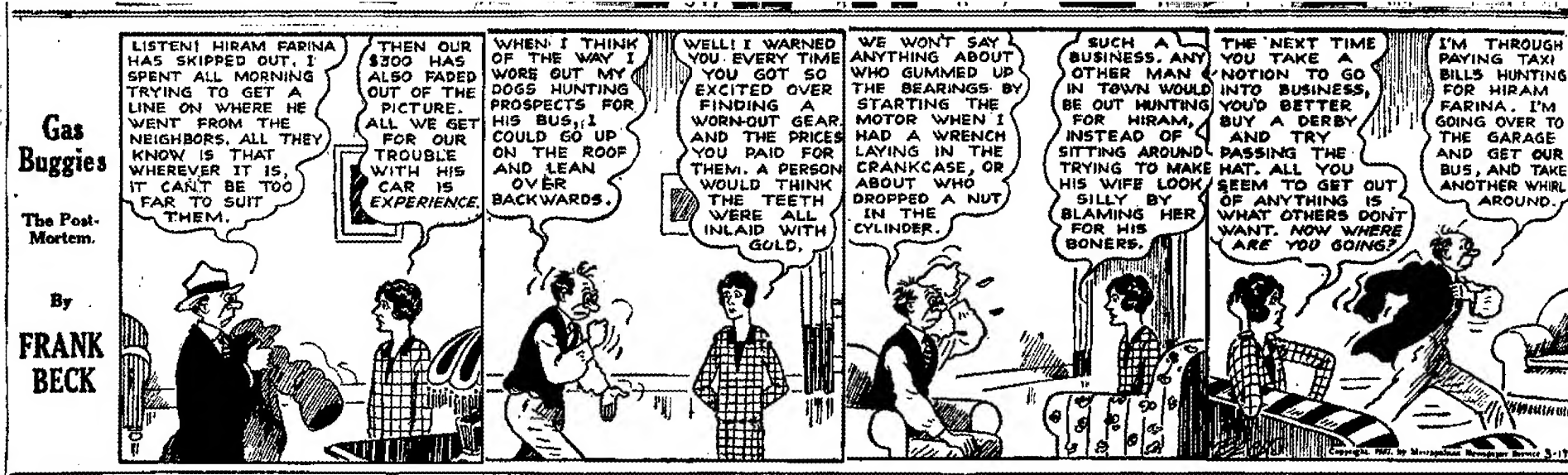
March 15, 1927
Decatur Herald



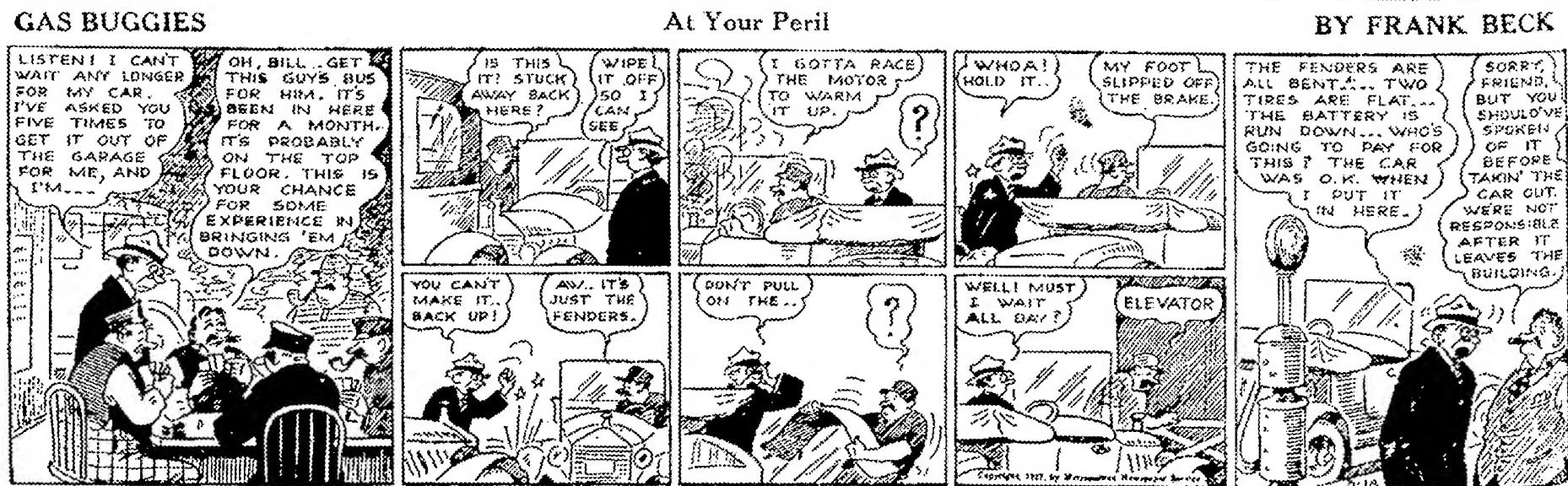
March 16, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times



March 17, 1927
Decatur Herald



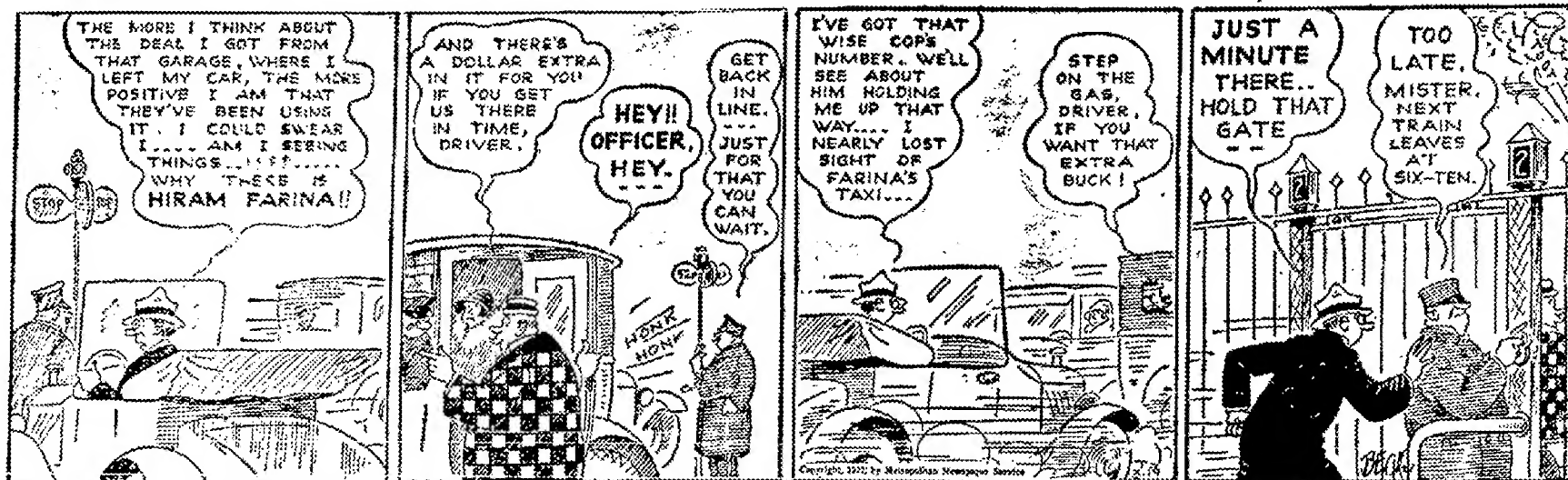
March 18, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times



March 19, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

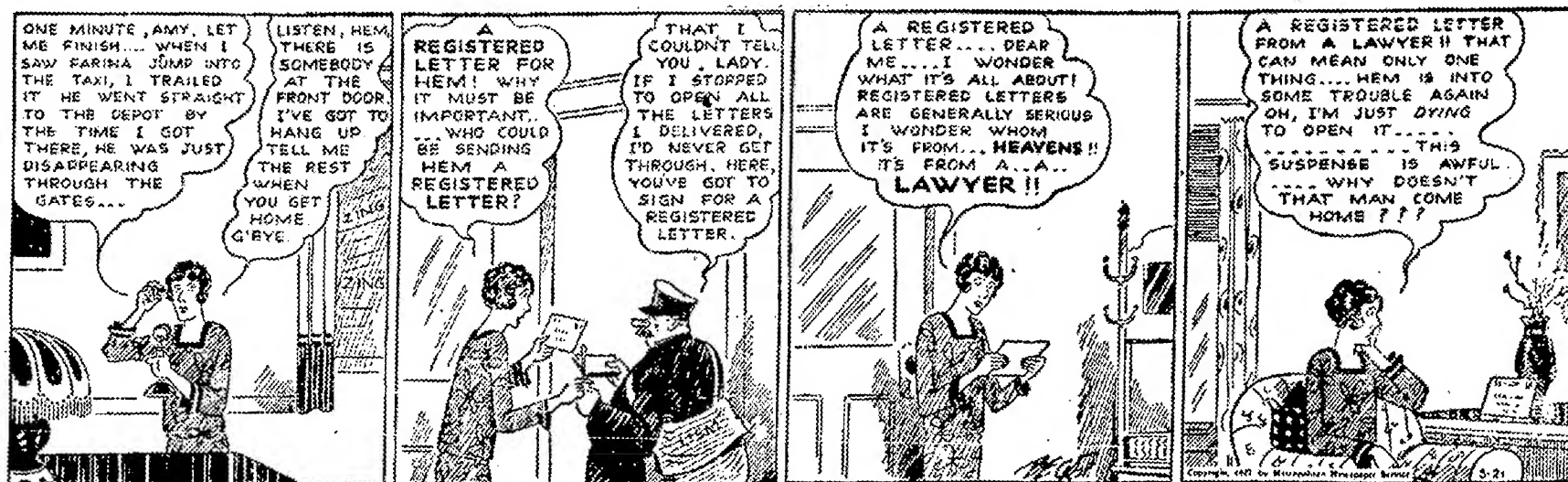
By FRANK BECK



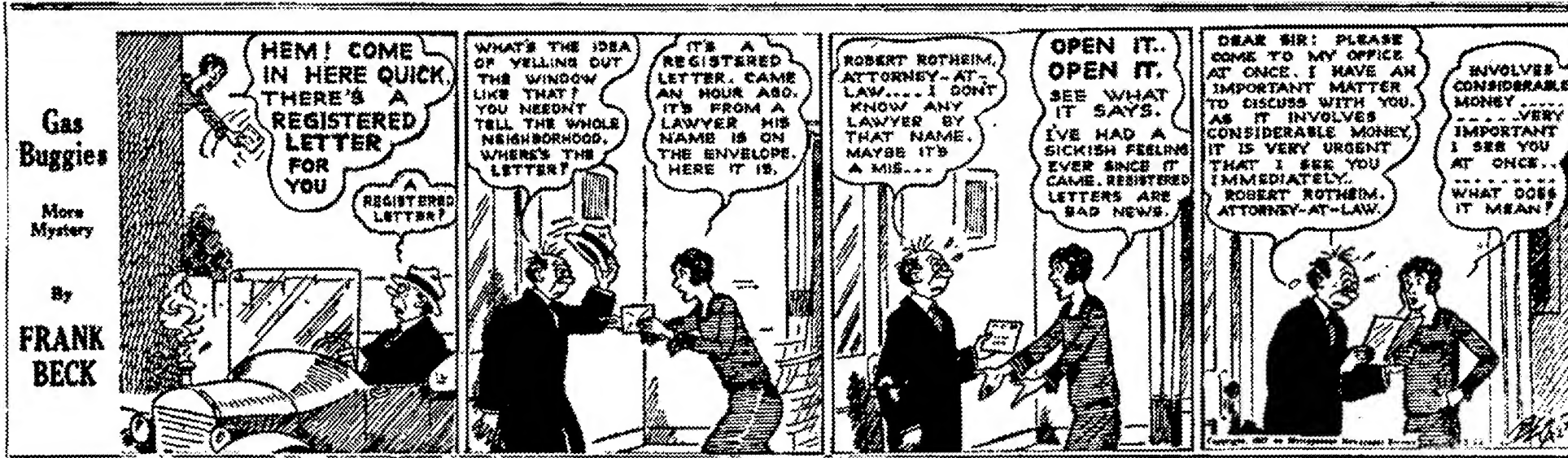
March 21, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

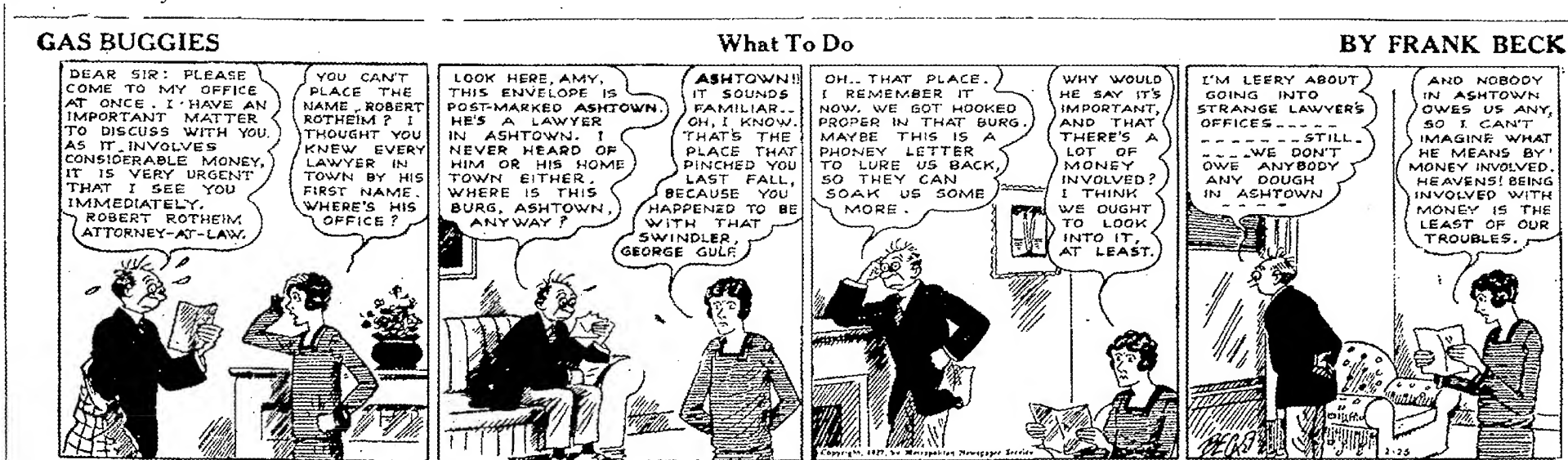
By FRANK BECK



March 22, 1927
Decatur Herald



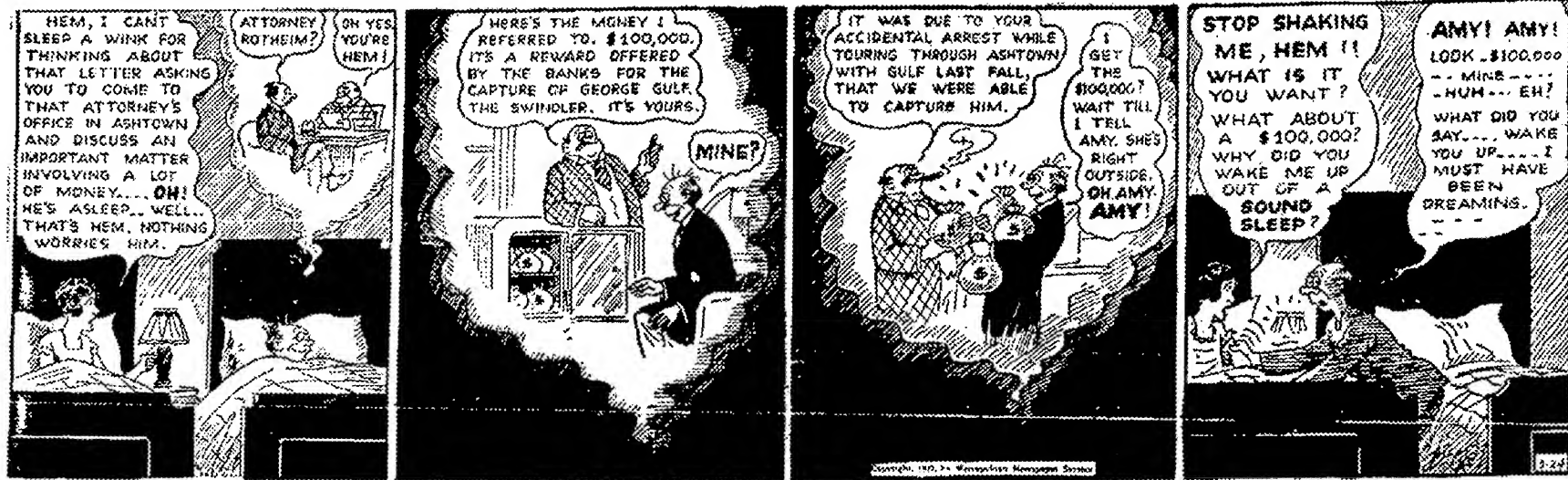
March 23, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times



March 24, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

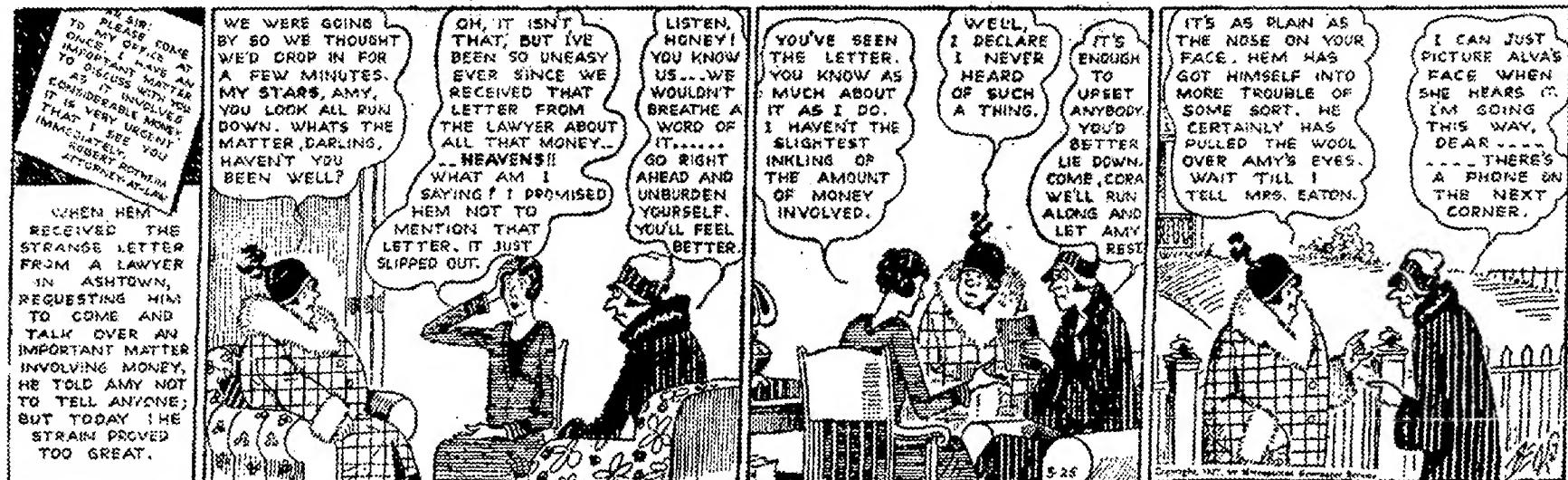
By FRANK BECK



March 25, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

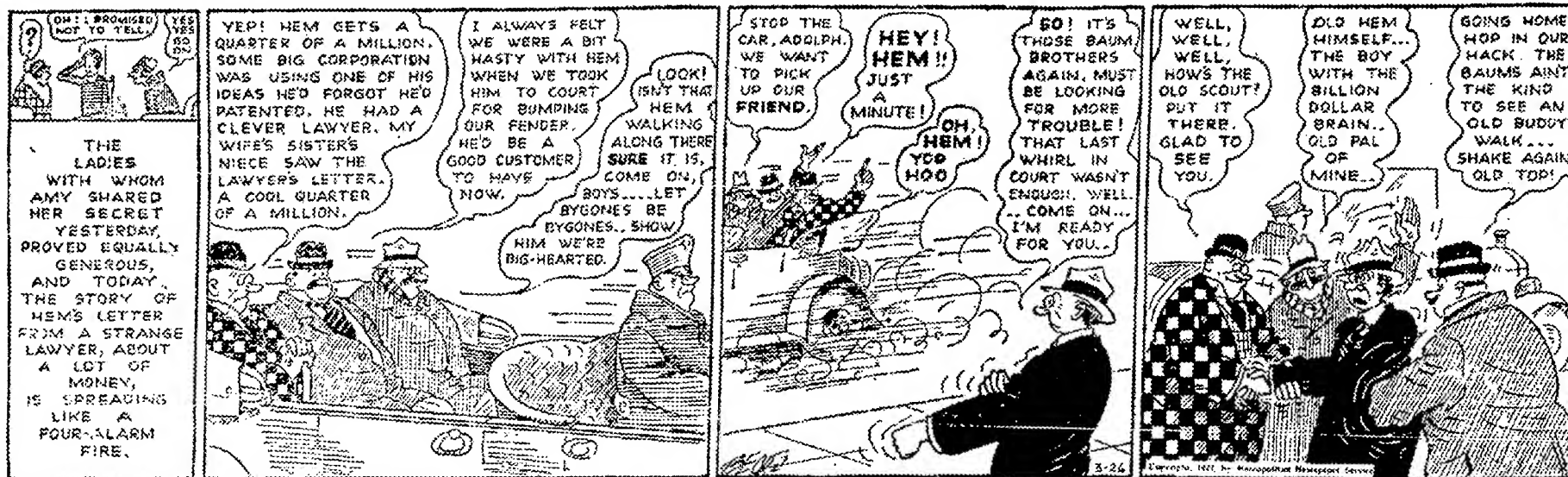
By FRANK BECK



March 26, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



March 28, 1927
Decatur Herald

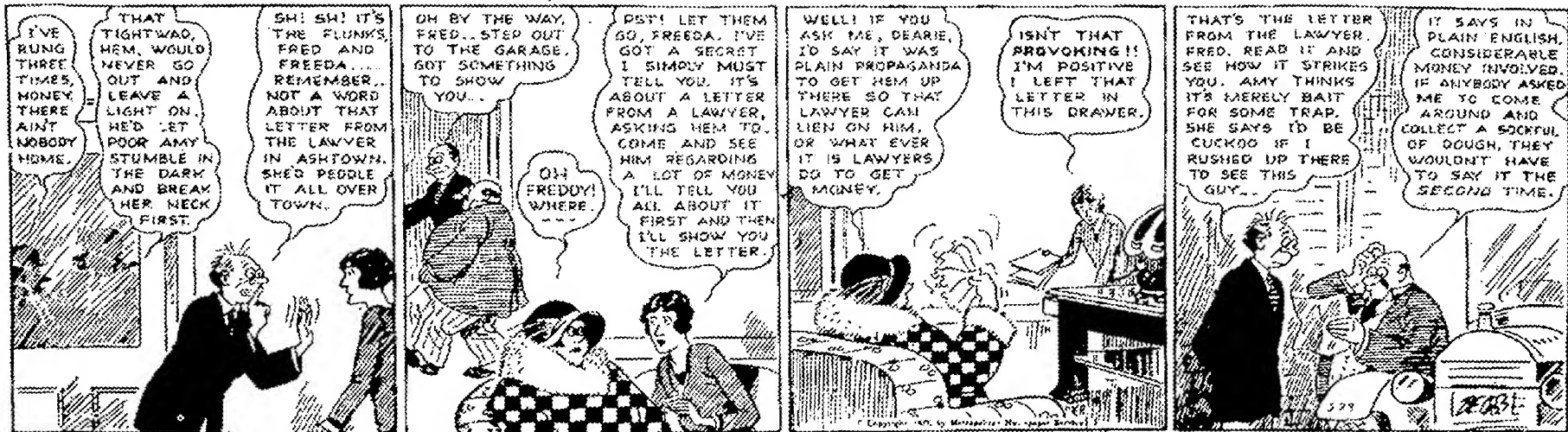


March 29, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

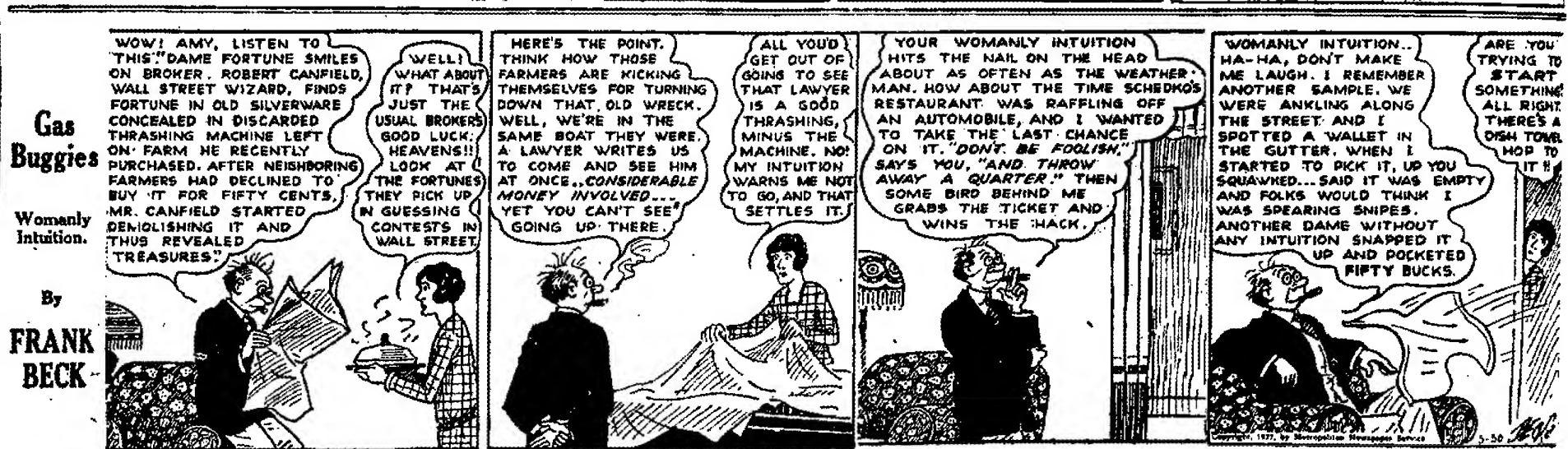
GAS BUGGIES

Secrets Will Out

BY FRANK BECK



March 30, 1927
Decatur Herald



March 31, 1927
 Portsmouth Daily Times

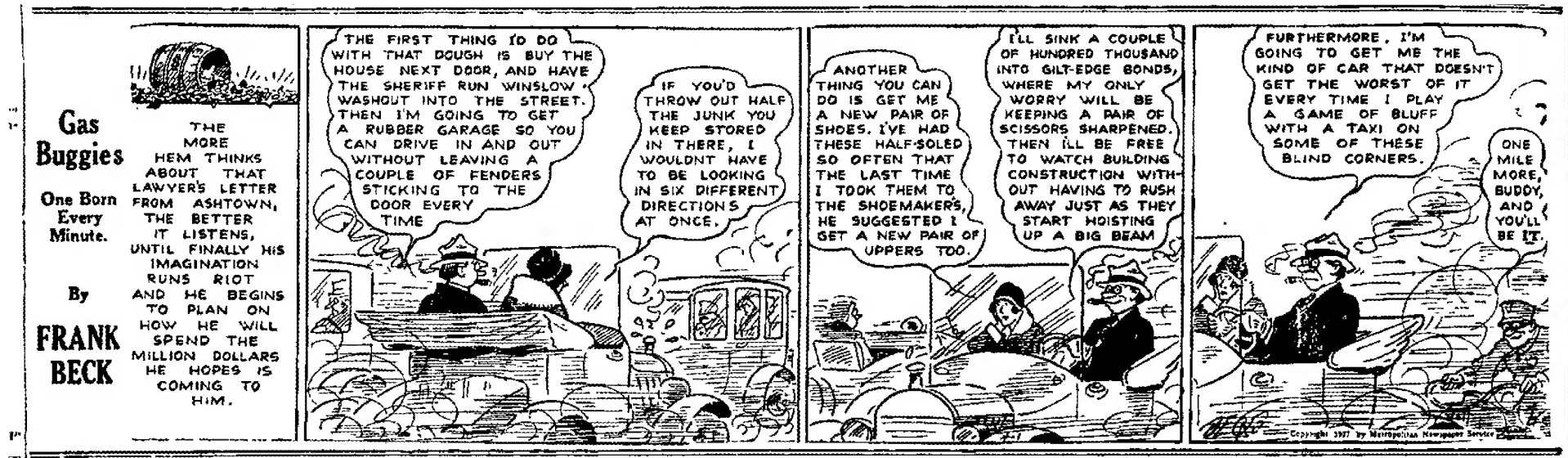
GAS BUGGIES

Inside Information

BY FRANK BECK



April 1, 1927
Decatur Herald



April 2, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

Inside Information.

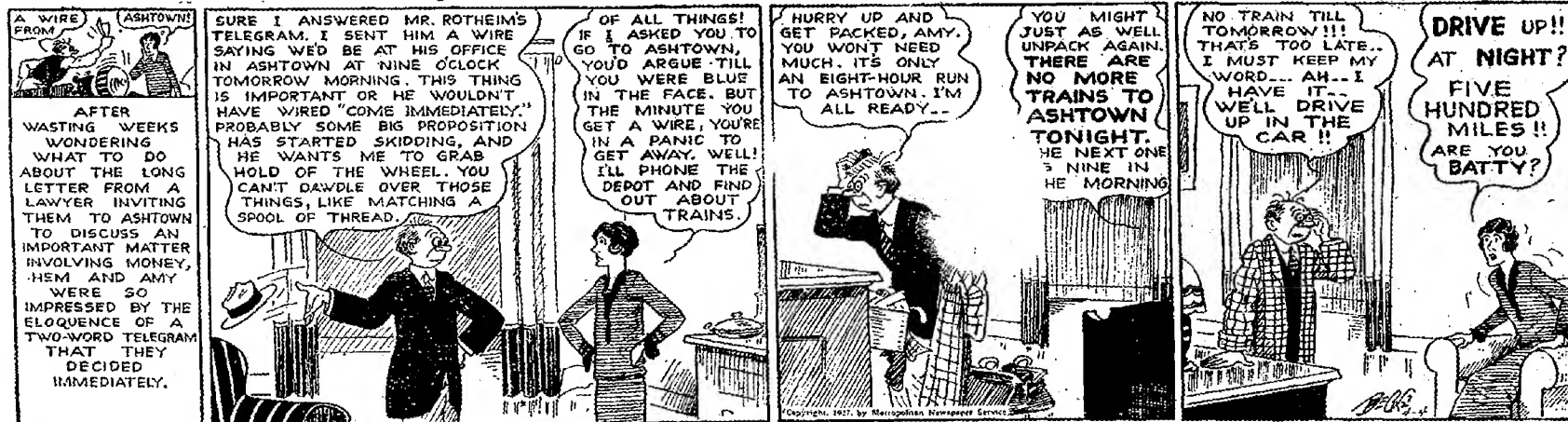
By Frank Beck



April 4, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

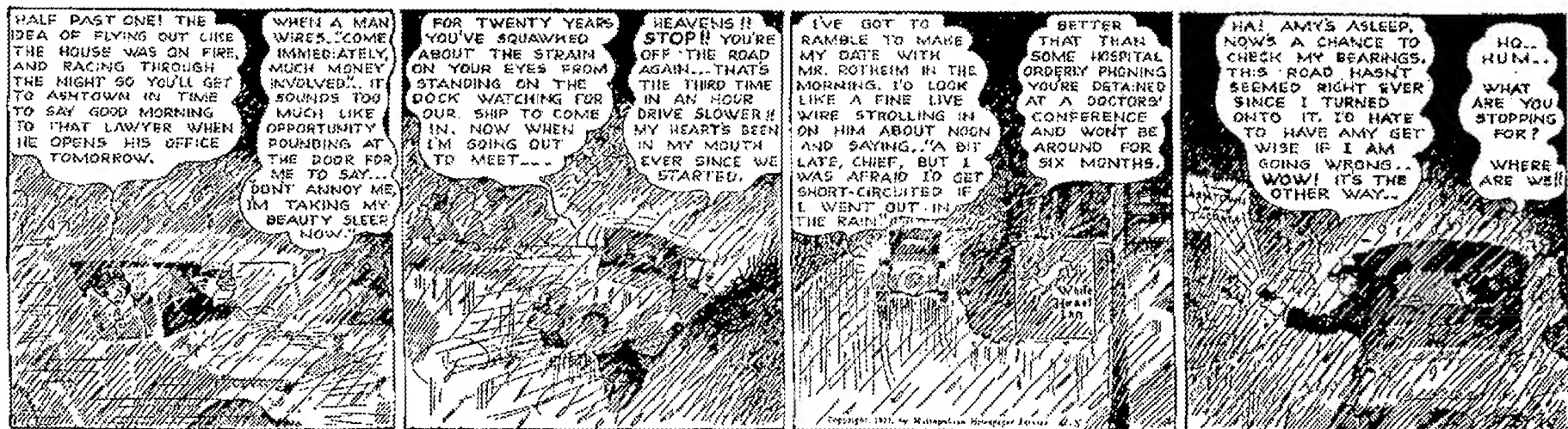
By Frank Beck



April 5, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES ..o

On To Ashtown

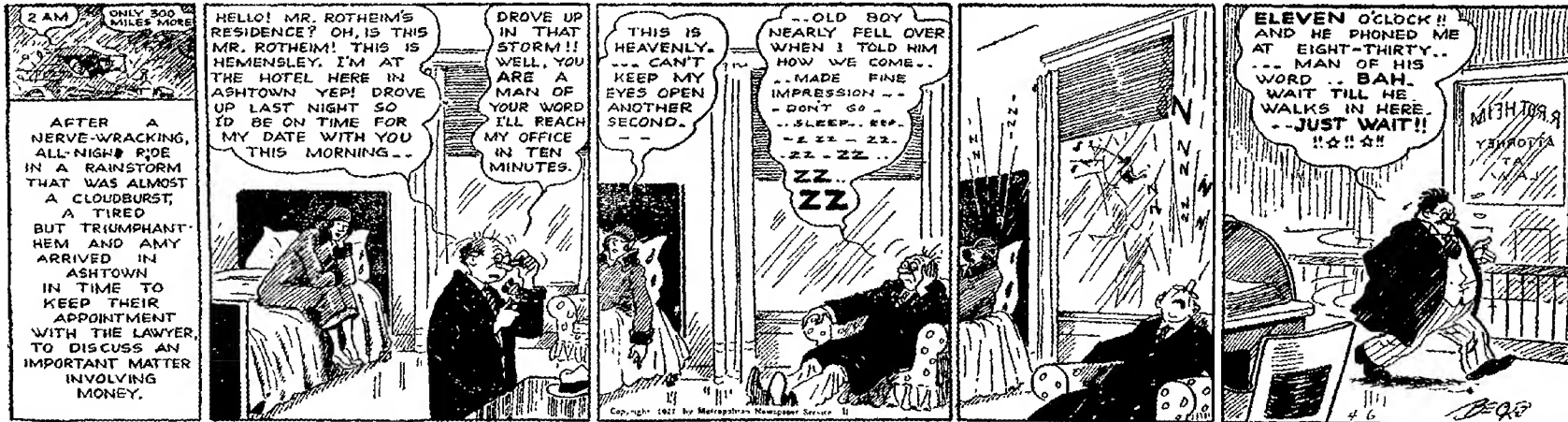


April 6, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

Hem Leaps And Looks Afterward.

By Frank Beck

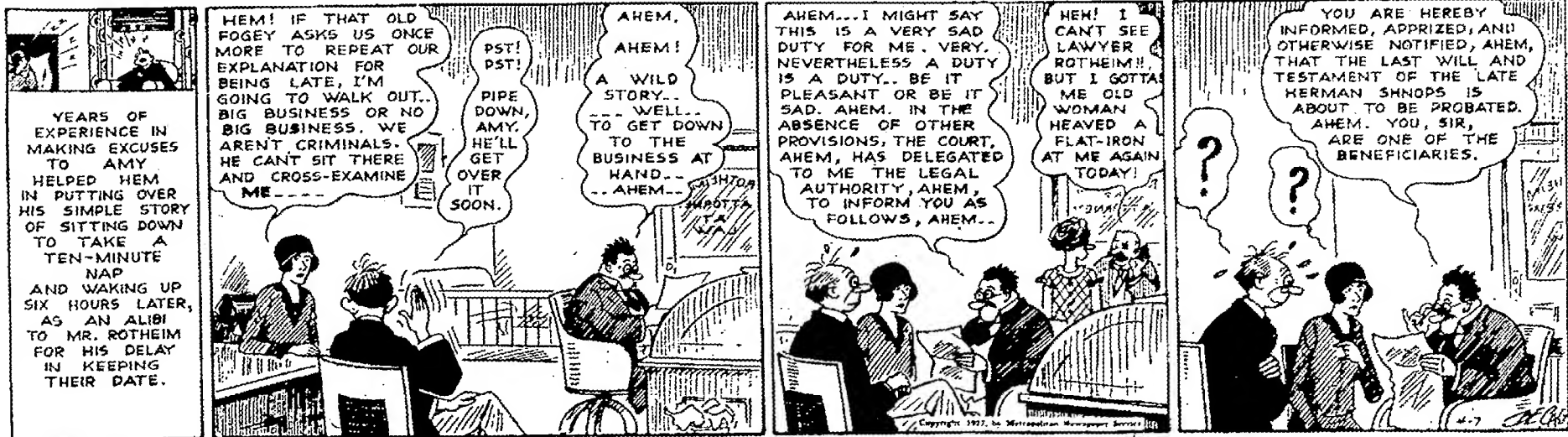


April 7, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Well! Well!

BY FRANK BECK

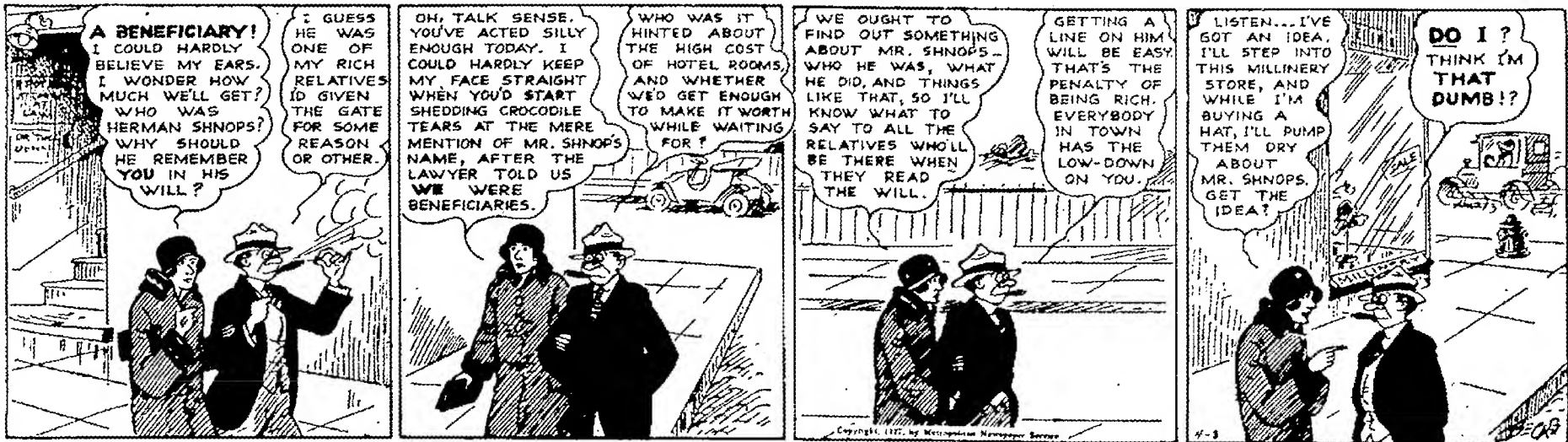


April 8, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Who Was Herman Shnops?

BY FRANK BECK

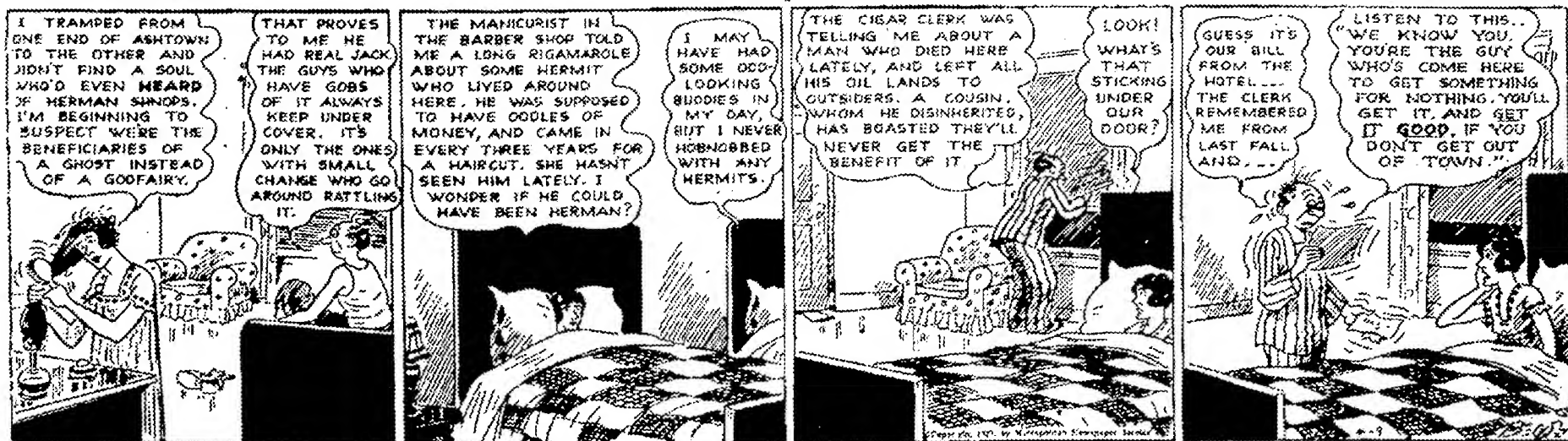


April 9, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

The Soup Thickens

BY FRANK BECK



April 11, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Beware, Hem!

By **FRANK BECK**

Panel 1: A NOTE THRUST UNDER THEIR DOOR IN THE HOTEL, THREATENING HIM WITH SUDDEN DEATH IF HE DID NOT LEAVE ASHTOWN IMMEDIATELY, CONVINCED HIM MORE THAN EVER THAT THE LEGACY FROM HIS UNKNOWN BENEFACTOR WAS WORTH WAITING FOR.

Panel 2: LISTEN... MY MIND IS MADE UP. WHEN THEY CALL THE ROLL OF THE BENEFICIARIES, I'LL BE THERE WITH A BIG YOM! THE NINNY WHO WROTE THAT NOTE PROBABLY FIGURED TO BE PARALYZED WITH FRIGHT OR STAMPEDED OUT OF TOWN. EITHER WAY, IT WOULD LEAVE HIM IN THE CLEAR TO GRAB MY SHARE OF HERMAN SHNOPS' ESTATE.

Panel 3: REMEMBER WHAT THE CIGAR MAN TOLD YOU ABOUT SOMEBODY CUTTING OFF HIS COUSIN, AND LEAVING HIS OIL LANDS TO OUTSIDERS? THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HERMAN SHNOPS; AND THIS NOTE IS FROM HIS COUSIN WHO BOASTED HE'D KEEP ANYONE FROM GETTING THEM.

Panel 4: I'D BE A FINE BENEFICIARY IF I LET THAT DIZZY DISCOURAGE ME BY DROPPING A NOTE UNDER MY DOOR IF HE TRIES CROSSING MY WIRES, HE'LL GET A SHOCK THAT'LL JOLT HIM OUT OF HIS JEANS. WOULDN'T IT BE WONDERFUL IF WE GOT A LOT OF OIL LANDS. THEN WE COULD SETTLE DOWN AND BE GENTLEMEN FARMERS AND RAISE A CROP OF OIL WELLS. WHY...ER...YES WE HAVE A MAN HEM IN THE HOTEL WHO IS HERE ABOUT SOME ESTATE. HIS CAR IS THAT ROADSTER OUT IN FRONT. IF YOU WISH, I'LL CALL HIM.... OH, NO..NO. I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHO IS HIS CAR. I THOUGHT MAYBE HE'D NEED NEW TIRES, BUT HIS ARE O.K. - MUCH 'BLIGED.

April 12, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Ah Ha! Dirty Work

BY FRANK BECK

Panel 1: I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT THAT NOTE WARNING YOU NOT TO TRY AND COLLECT YOUR SHARE OF HERMAN SHNOPS' ESTATE. I WOULDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN.... SAY... WHAT'S THAT MAN DOING UNDER OUR CAR? I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'LL SOON FIND OUT.

Panel 2: I DIDN'T LIKE HIS LOOKS A LITTLE BIT. HE REMINDED ME OF A SNAKE. AND HIS LONG RIGAMAROLE ABOUT DROPPING A NICKEL THAT ROLLED UNDER OUR CAR SOUNDED FISHY TO ME.

Panel 3: OH, I GUESS HE'S HARD-UP. BUT AT THAT, IF A NICKEL LOOKS SO BIG TO HIM, HE SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE FINDING IT.

Panel 4: HEY... HEM... I KNOW YOU WANT TO BE ON TIME FOR THE READING OF THE WILL, BUT THERE'S NO SENSE IN RACING DOWN HILL... HEM! SLOW UP!

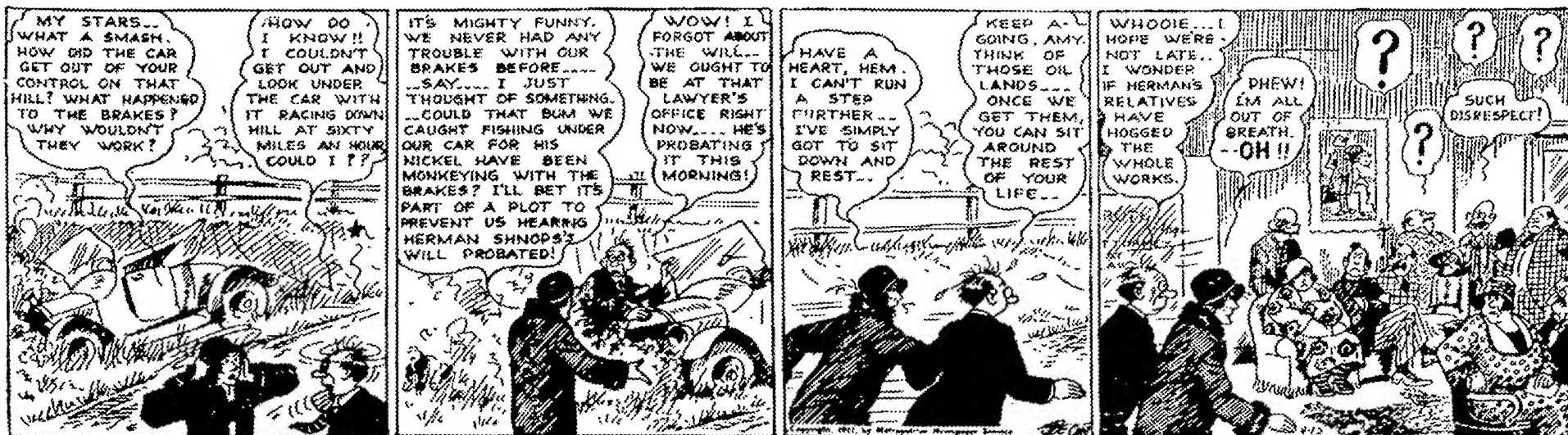
Panel 5: SLOW UP!!? HOW AM I GOING TO SLOW UP WHEN THE BRAKES WON'T WORK? OH

April 13, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Come Early And Avoid The Rush

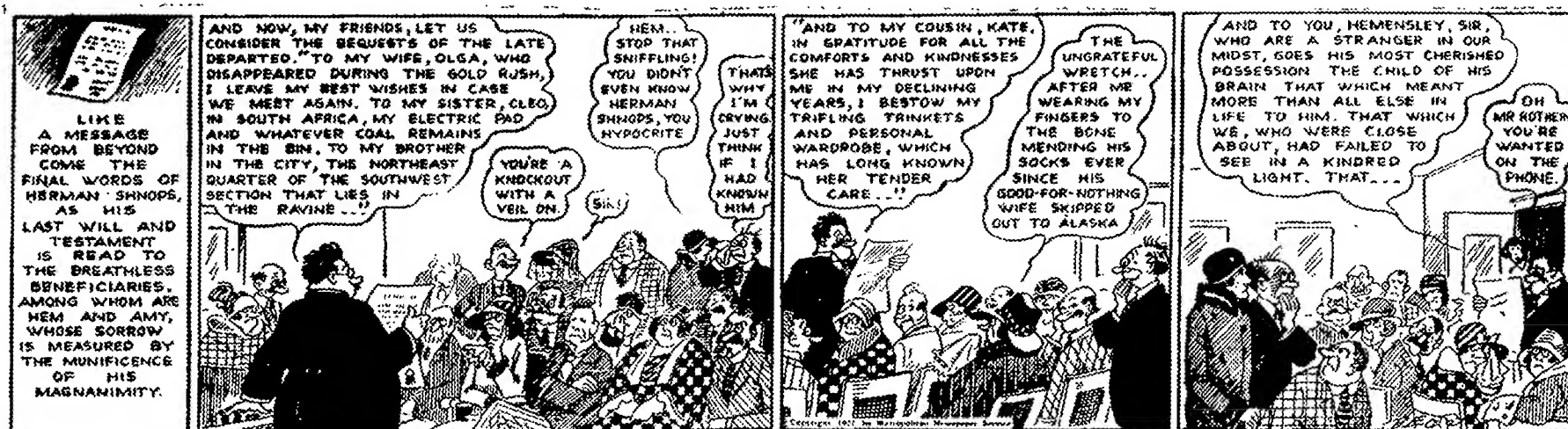
BY FRANK BECK



April 14, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



April 15, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

The Legacy
—Ha! Ha!

By
FRANK BECK

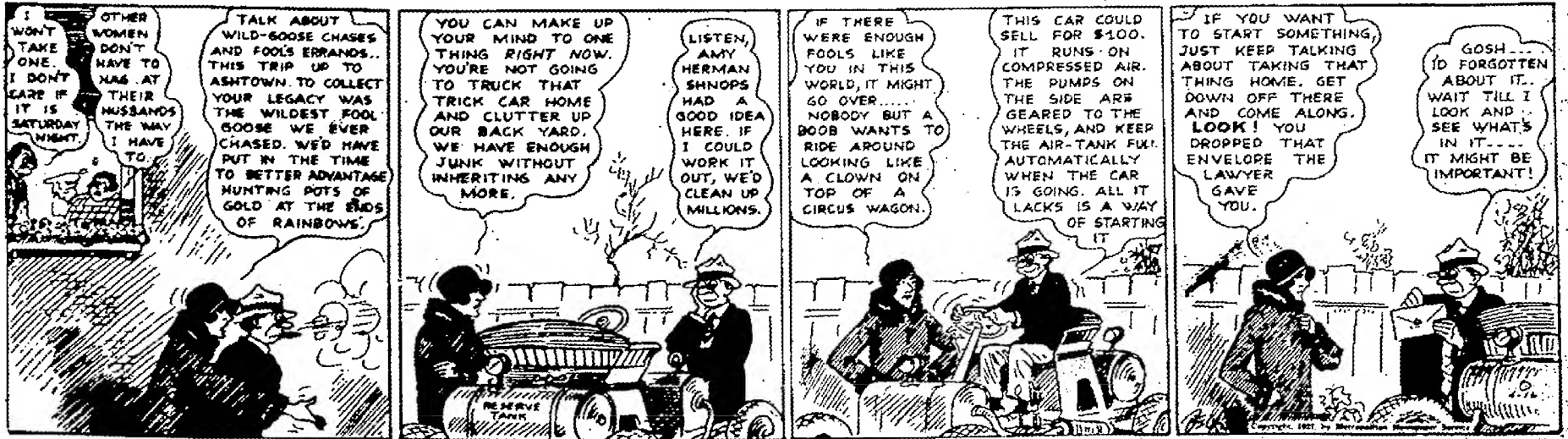


April 16, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Oh, Yes — The Letter

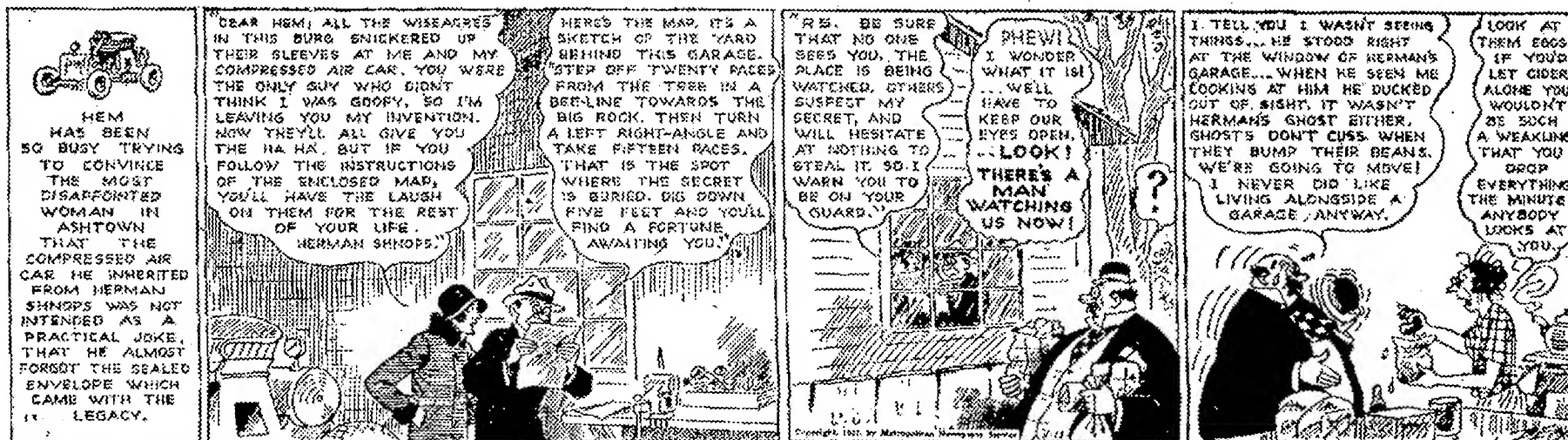
BY FRANK BECK



April 18, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

More Mystery

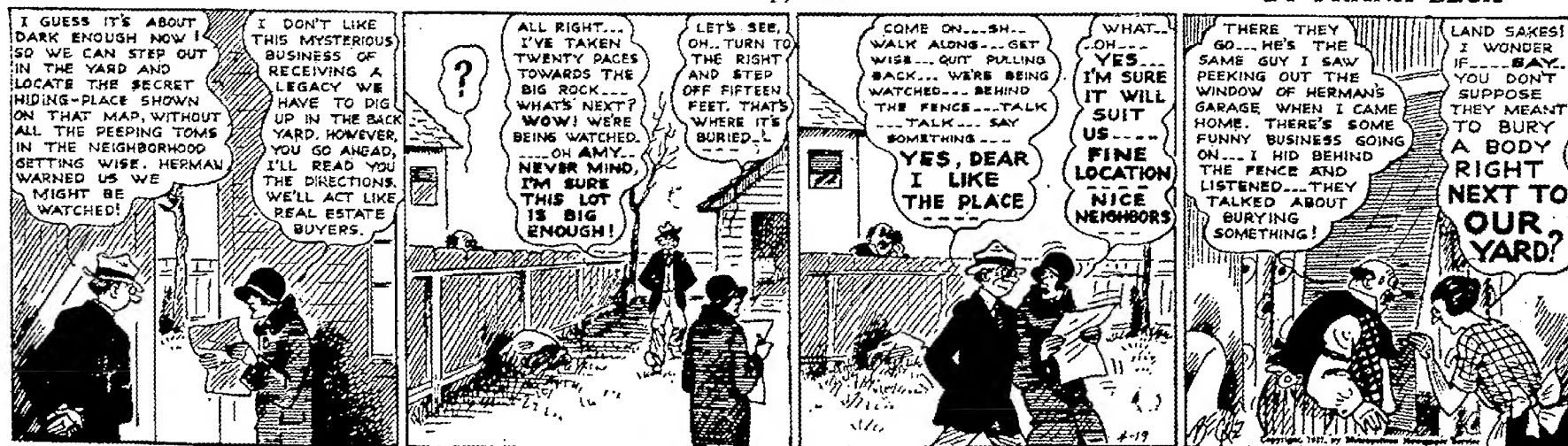


April 19, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

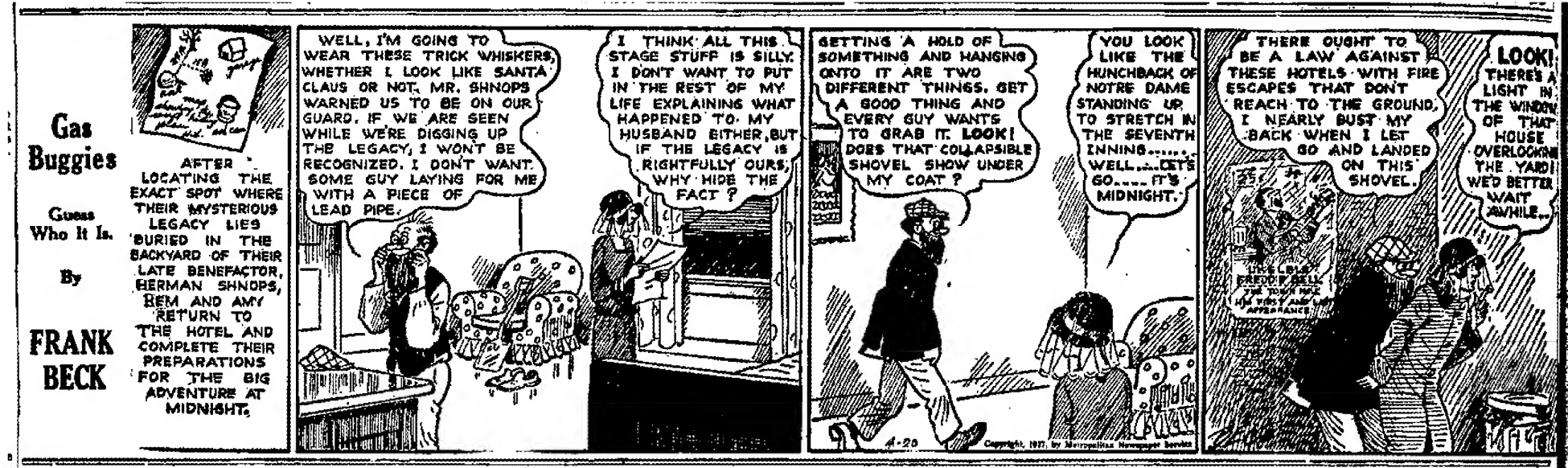
GAS BUGGIES

Watch Your Step, Hem

BY FRANK BECK



April 20, 1927
Decatur Herald



April 21, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times



April 22, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



April 23, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES OR HEM AND AMY

SAFE AT LAST

By Beck




April 25, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

On the Threshold of Prosperity.

By **FRANK BECK**



WHEN THE EXCITEMENT DIED DOWN, FOLLOWING HIS ATTEMPT TO SMUGGLE INTO THE HOTEL THE LEGACY HE EXHUMED IN HERMAN SHNOPS' BACKYARD, HE OPENED THE MYSTERIOUS CHEST AND DISCOVERED THE MISSING LINK THAT WILL START HIS COMPRESSED AIR CAR ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS.

BEFORE WE OPEN THE SATCHEL, LET'S SEE WHAT'S IN THIS NOTE. DEAR HEM, HANDLE THIS GRIP WITH CARE. IT CONTAINS MY LAST INVENTION. A SELF-STARTER THAT WILL START MY COMPRESSED AIR CAR. THE DREAM OF MY LIFE COME TRUE. A CAR THAT'LL SELL FOR \$100, AND COST NOTHING TO RUN. DON'T OPEN THE SATCHEL, OR YOU WILL DESTROY THE SECRET MECHANISM. HERMAN SHNOPS.

WHAT! ANOTHER ONE OF HIS DREAMS? I THOUGHT, FROM THE FUSS HE'S MADE OVER IT, IT WAS STUFFED WITH THOUSAND-DOLLAR BILLS!

ALL THE SATCHELS IN THE WORLD WOULDN'T HOLD THE DOUGH WE'LL MAKE OFF THIS SELF-STARTER... IF IT WORKS, AND IT OUGHT TO. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ATTACH THESE TWO WIRES TO PLUGS UNDER THE FRONT SEAT...

IF IT WORKS, BUT DON'T FORGET THE IF. WE'VE HAD BEEN MILLIONAIRES LONG AGO IF HALF THE SCHEMES YOU HAVE RAVED OVER HAD WORKED.

WAIT A MINUTE, HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND!! HEM... WAIT TILL I SEE IF MY HATS ON STRAIGHT... WAIT...

WAIT MY EYE, COME ON! THE SOONER WE START THIS SELF-STARTER STARTING, THE SOONER OUR MILLIONS WILL START PILING UP...

April 26, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

CAS BUGIES OR HEM AND AMY

THE STARTER HAS STARTED SOMETHING

By Beck



I REPEAT, AMY, THE FUTURE OF THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY IS STOWED AWAY IN THIS LITTLE SATCHEL. IF OUR SECRET SELF-STARTER WORKS, OUR COMPRESSED AIR CAR WILL CROWD EVERY COMPETITOR OFF THE ROAD. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO TURN THEM OUT FAST ENOUGH. THINK OF IT A CAR THAT COSTS \$100, AND RUNS ON ITS REPUTATION.

LET'S TRY IT OUT FIRST AND THEN TALK ABOUT IT...

WHY DON'T WE GO? WHEN YOU FASTENED THOSE WIRES TO THE PLUGS IT SEEMED TO WIND UP SOMETHING!! I HOPE THAT BELLHOP DIDN'T BREAK ANY OF THE MECHANISM INSIDE THE SATCHEL WHEN HE INSISTED ON TAKING IT SO YOU'D HAVE TO HAND HIM A TIP.

IT'S HOOKED UP ACCORDING TO HOYLE... IF I KNEW WHAT HERMAN PUT IN THAT SATCHEL, IT WOULD HELP SOME...

HERE'S A VALVE ON THE COMPRESSED AIR CYLINDER OPEN... MAYBE THAT'S THE TROUBLE... I'LL CLOSE IT AND SEE!

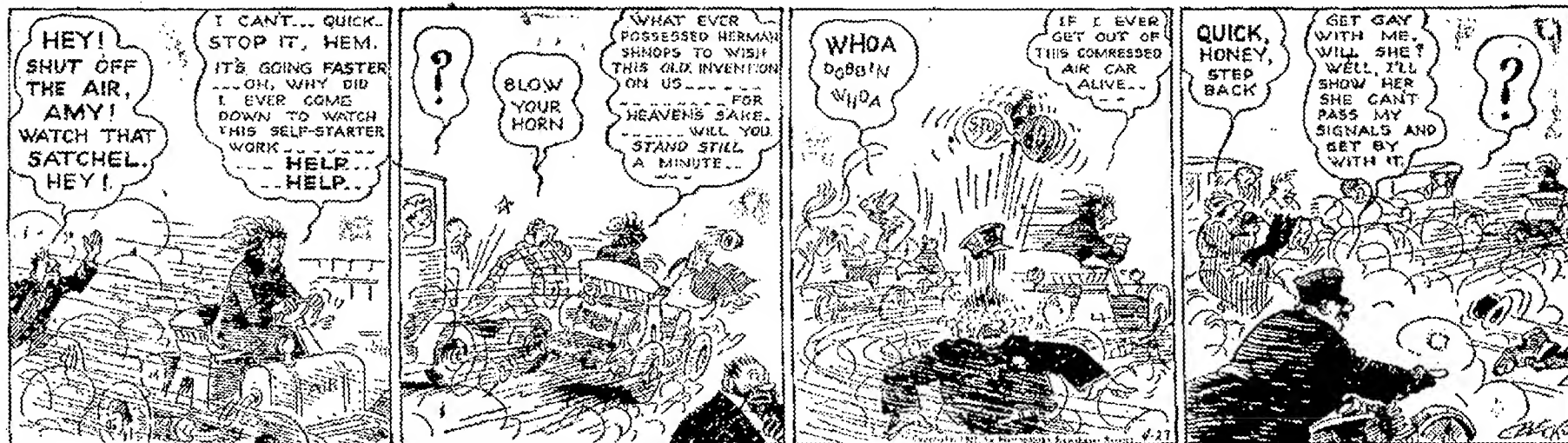
I'VE HAD A HUNCH ALL ALONG THERE'D BE SOME HITCH IN IT... BUILDING THINGS ON AIR IS BAD BUSINESS, WHETHER IT'S A CASTLE OR A CAR...

HELP! STOP IT, HEM

April 27, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

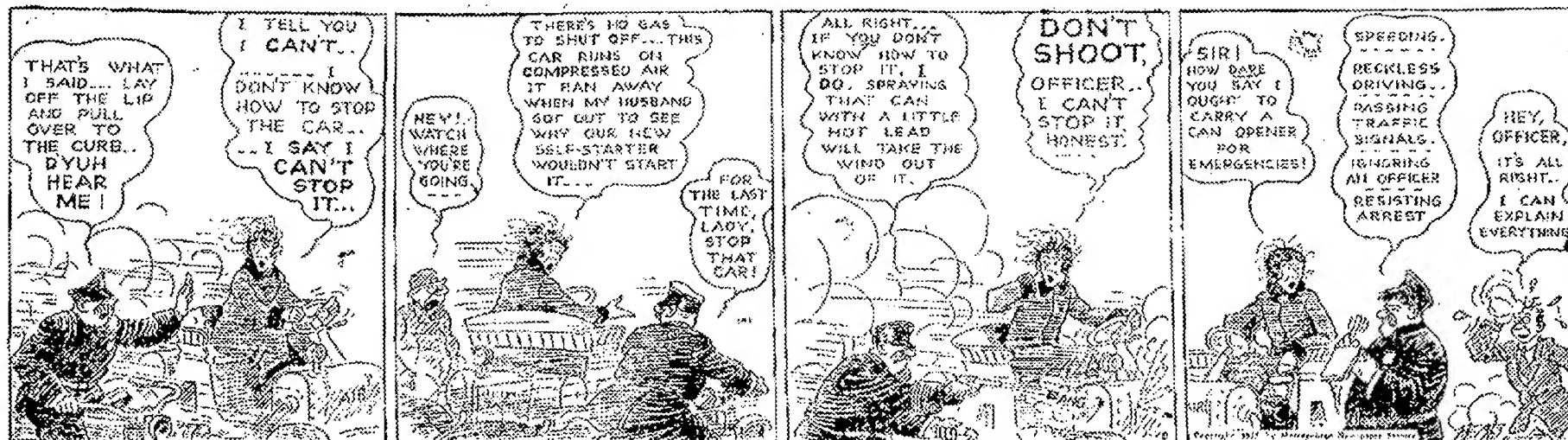
Amy Needs a Starter Now



April 28, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

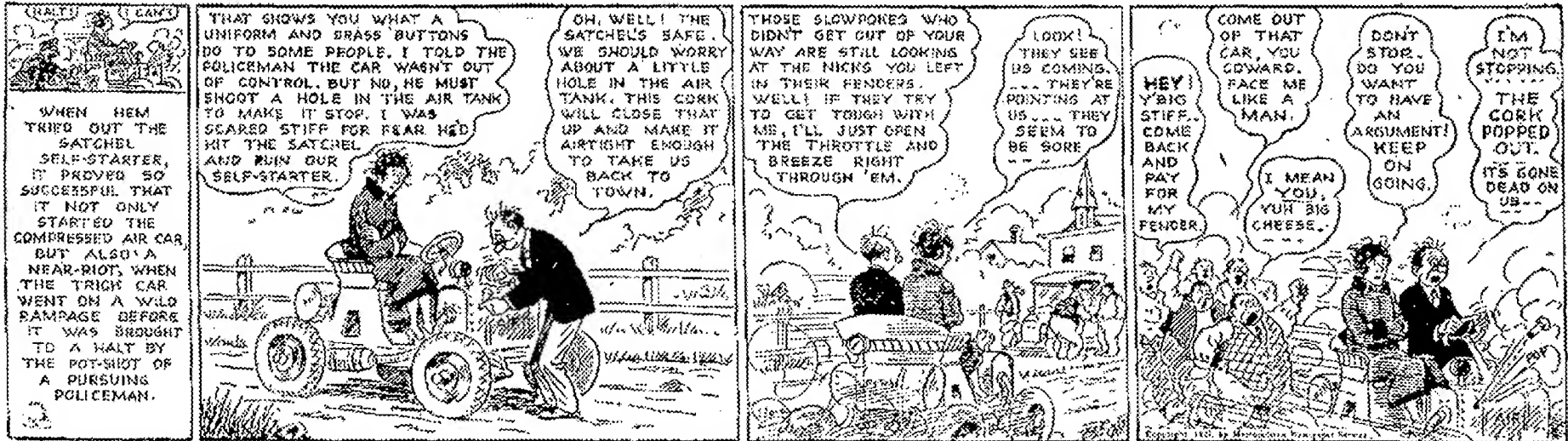
Halt!



April 29, 1927
Hamilton Journal

GAS BUGGIES

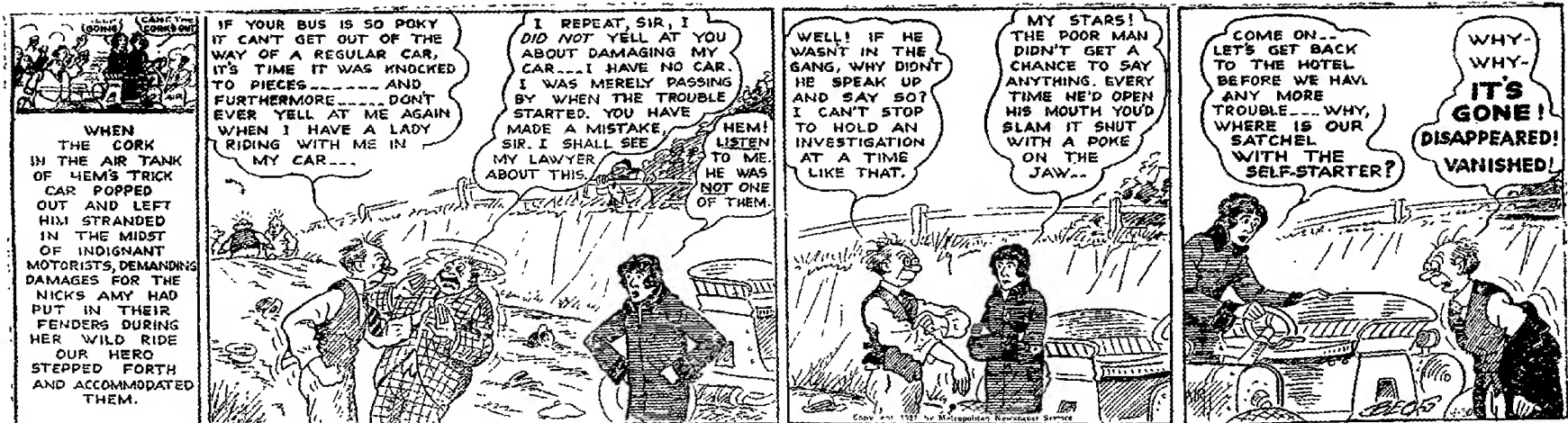
Trouble Brewing



April 30, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



April 1927

page 13

May 2, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES OR HEM AND AMY

ANYBODY HERE FOR A SATCHEL?

By Beck

AFTER A FRUITLESS SEARCH FOR THE SATCHEL CONTAINING THE SELF-STARTER FOR HIS COMPRESSED AIR CAR, WHICH DISAPPEARED DURING THE ROUGH-AND-READY SETTLEMENT OF SOME INDIGNANT MOTORISTS' DAMAGE CLAIMS, HEM BECAME CONVINCED THAT SOMEBODY HAD SLIPPED ONE OVER ON HIM.

SEE, I TOLD YOU THIS WASN'T OUR SATCHEL. OURS IS GONE, AND I DON'T NEED THREE TRY'S TO GUESS WHO GOT IT. IT WAS THAT BUNCH OF BOLSHIEVIKI WHO TRIED TO TRIM ME FOR A FLOCK OF NEW FENDERS, BECAUSE THEIR HACKS DIDN'T HOP OUT OF YOUR WAY QUICK ENOUGH. BELIEVE ME, WHEN I FIND 'EM, I'LL FLATTEN 'EM OUT SO THEY'LL LOOK LIKE FOOTPRINTS.

WASN'T I STUPID TO STAND THERE AND LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THE SATCHEL? BUT IT WAS ALL SO SUDDEN, I WAS TOO SURPRISED TO THINK ABOUT WATCHING THEM...

WHOEVER GOT IT MUST'VE GRABBED IT WHILE I WAS TRYING TO HAND YOU THE JACK HANDLE. WHAT A DIFTY, LOW-DOWN TRICK TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A LADY WHEN SHE ISN'T LOOKING. WHY DOESN'T THE CAR START? MAYBE THAT CORK IN THE AIR TANK ISN'T TIGHT?

IT'LL GO WHEN WE WORK UP A LITTLE MORE AIR PRESSURE. AS SOON AS WE GET BACK TO THE HOTEL I'LL START OUT LOOKING FOR THOSE BABIES.

DON'T YOU FRET... I'LL GET THAT SATCHEL BACK... I KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR IT. WHEN I FIND OUT EXACTLY WHICH GUY GOT IT, I'LL GO TO WORK ON HIM RIGHT. I'M NOT WORRIED...

BUT THEY DON'T KNOW IT CONTAINS OUR SELF-STARTER WHICH WILL BE RUINED IF THE SATCHEL IS OPENED. WHAT IF THEY OPEN IT?



May 3, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times
GAS BUGGIES

A Mustache For A Starter

BY FRANK BECK

A LOT OF GOOD IT DID US TO INHERIT THAT COMPRESSED AIR CAR, JUST WHEN WE HAD DUG UP A SELF-STARTER THAT WOULD WORK, AND WERE READY TO REAP OUR REWARD... BINGO... SOMEBODY WALKS OFF WITH IT WHILE YOU'RE TRADING TIRADES WITH SOME TOUGHS OVER A TRIVIAL TRAFFIC TANGLE.

WHOEVER TOOK THAT SATCHEL WILL KNOW BETTER'N TO TRY ANY MORE TRICKS ON ME WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH 'EM.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? THE MINUTE YOU SHOW YOUR FACE AROUND TOWN, THEY'LL HAVE YOU ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT AND BATTERY. THAT'S PROBABLY WHY THEY TOOK THE SATCHEL... THEY KNEW YOU'D COME AROUND LOOKING FOR IT. IT'S THEIR BIG CHANCE TO BALANCE UP THEIR BOOKS FOR THE BEATING YOU GAVE THEM.

THEY FORGOT TO FIGURE ON MY BRAINS. WAIT A SECOND... I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO USE THE OLD SKULL... -WATCH

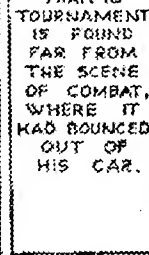
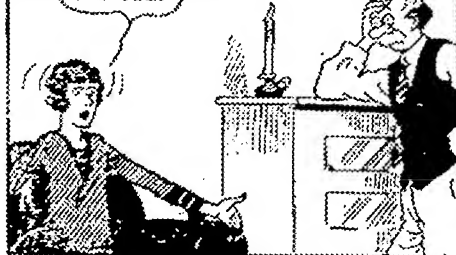
BY THE TIME YOU GET TRACK OF THE SATCHEL, THEY'LL PROBABLY HAVE OPENED IT AND RUINED THE STARTER... YEOW!

HOCUS, POCUS, MOLOCUS, PRESTO CHANGE! I DEFEY THE KEENEST EYE TO PIERCE THIS DISGUISE!

IN THE MEANTIME, THE SATCHEL THAT MYSTERIOUSLY VANISHED, DURING HEM'S TRY IN A TRAFFIC TOURNAIMENT, IS FOUND FAR FROM THE SCENE OF COMBAT, WHERE IT HAD BOUNCED OUT OF HIS CAR.

NOW... YOU SEE... I TOLD YOU THAT WAS A SATCHEL. MAYBE YOU'LL LEARN TO LISTEN TO ME SOME DAY!!?

THERE'S NO NAME ON IT... I WONDER WHAT'S IN IT. --HM-- WELL, WAIT'LL WE'RE HOME TO OPEN IT.



May 4, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



May 5, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Caught In The Act

BY FRANK BECK



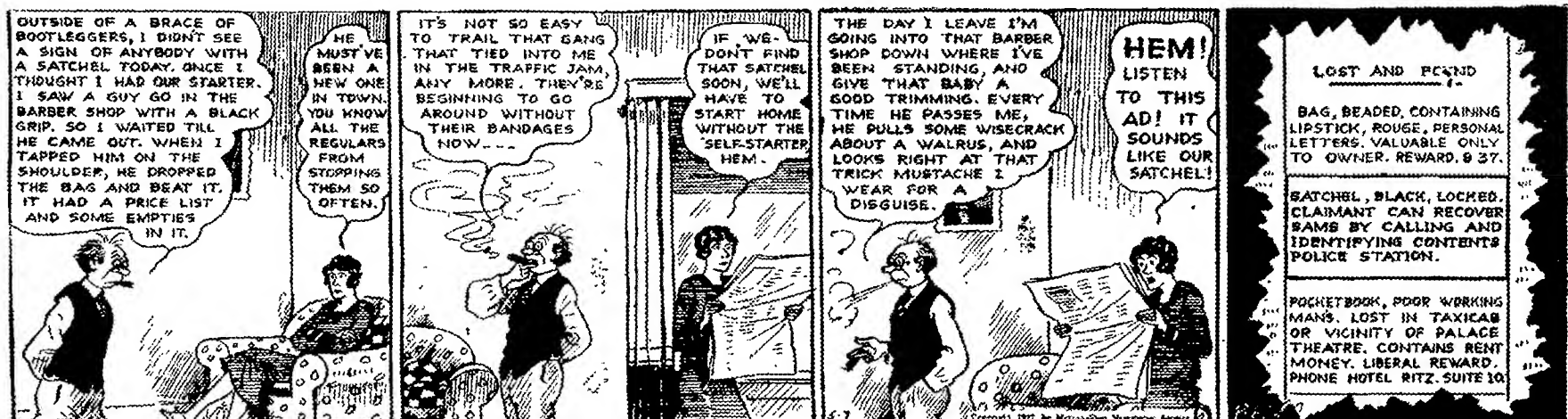
May 6, 1927
Decatur Herald



May 7, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



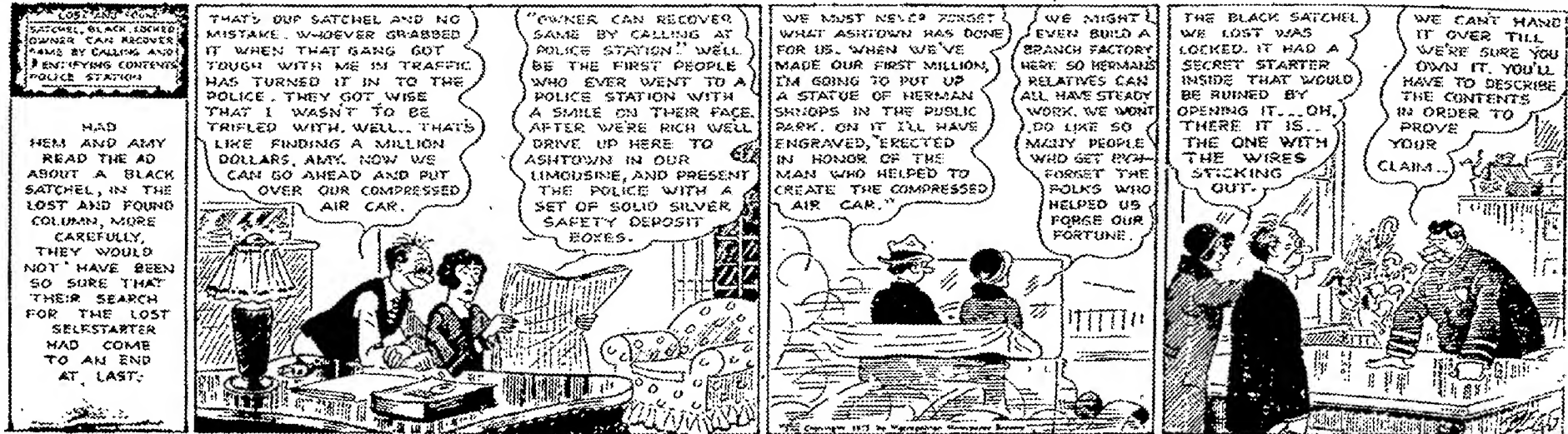
May 9, 1927

The Daily Northwestern

GAS BUGGIES—Try and Get It

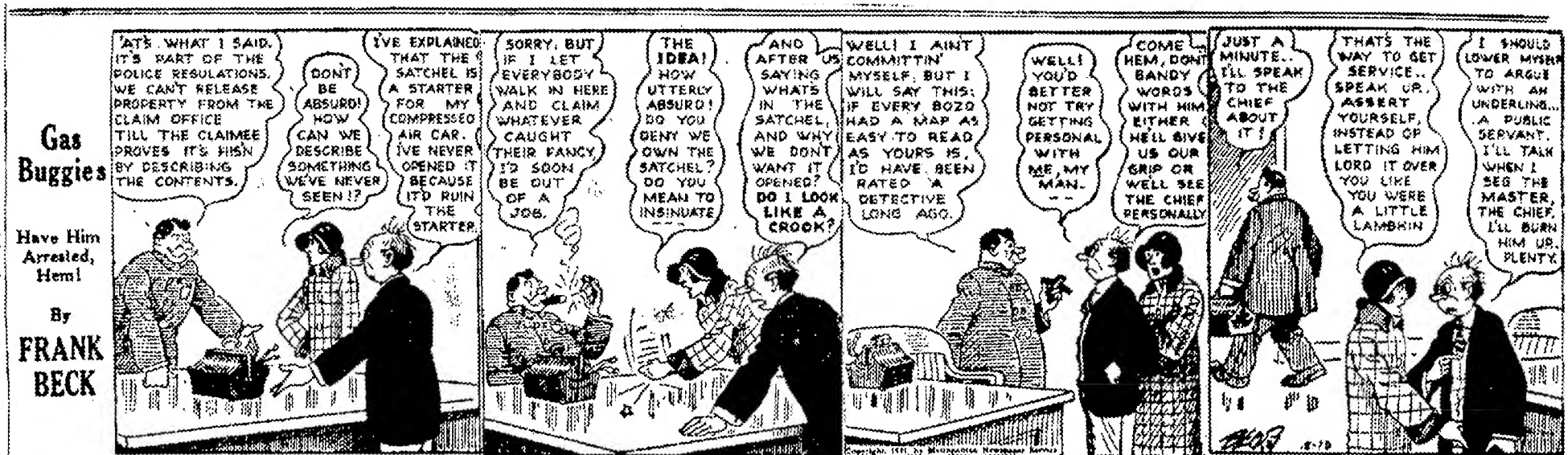
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By BECK



May 10, 1927

Decatur Herald



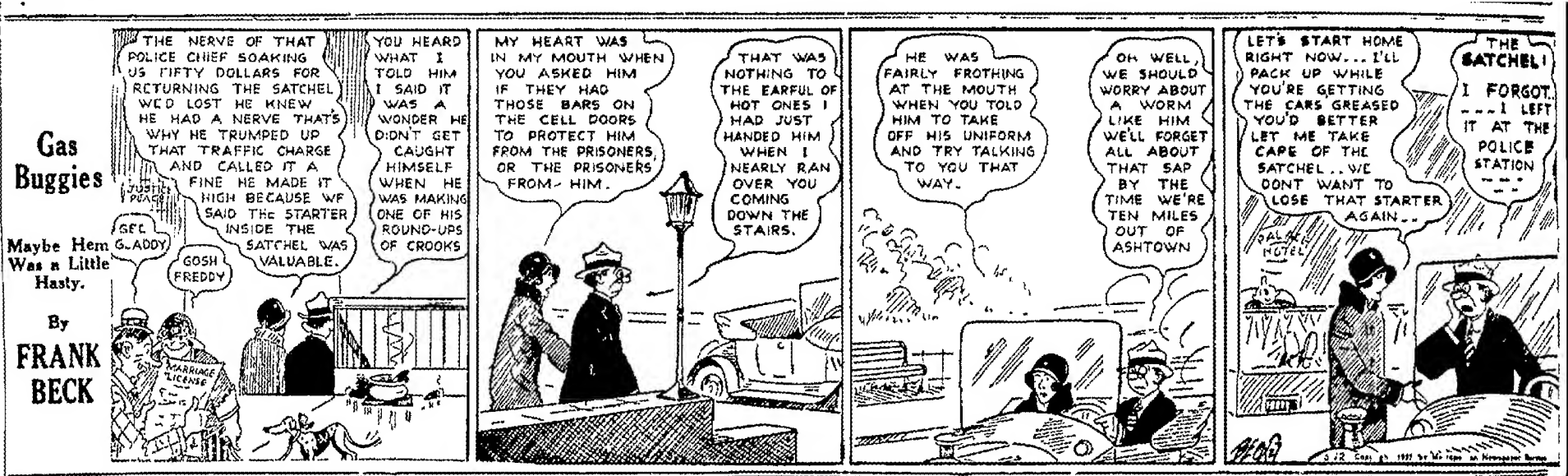
May 11, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Be



May 12, 1927
Decatur Herald



May 13, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Friday, the 13th, Again.

By
FRANK BECK

HAB AH DONE GOT YOH STRAIGHT, BOSS? DEM DERE TWO BAGS AH LEAVES BEHIND FO YOH. DESEN HEAH GOES IN DE FUST CAR. DAT LIL' BLACK SATCHEL WIT DE WIRES STICKIN' OUT AH STOWS AWAY IN DE SECOND CAR.

NO, NO. THOSE TWO BAGS GO IN THE... OH, NEVER MIND... TAKE 'EM ALL DOWN BUT THE BLACK SATCHEL. I'LL BRING IT MYSELF.

WAIT! LEAVE THE BROWN BAG... THESE THINGS YOU OVERLOOKED BELONG IN IT. I TOLD YOU TO TAKE CARE OF THE BILL. I'LL LOOK AFTER THIS STUFF.

NOPE! YOU'VE GOT IT TWISTED AGAIN. LISTEN... THE SIX DOLLAR ITEM IS FOR THE BEDSPREAD YOUR CIGAR BURNED. THAT \$2 IS FOR TOWELS YOU SHINED YOUR SHOES ON.

WHY NOT A DISCOUNT THEN FOR THE NIGHT THE HEAT WAS SHUT OFF?

HERE, BOY, BUT MY BAG OVER THERE ON THE BUS THAT IS BOUND FOR THE DEPOT.

TALK ABOUT YOUR HOLD-UPS! I'LL NEVER COME TO THIS DUMP AGAIN... --HEY! THIS ISN'T MY SATCHEL!

May 14, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

All Aboard!

By
FRANK BECK

YES?

MY SATCHEL... IT'S GONE... THIS ONE ISN'T MINE... SOMEBODY GRABBED MY GRIP... I WAS PAYING MY BILL... RIGHT AT THIS DESK... JUST A SECOND AGO.

IN THIS HOTEL!... OH SURELY NOY...

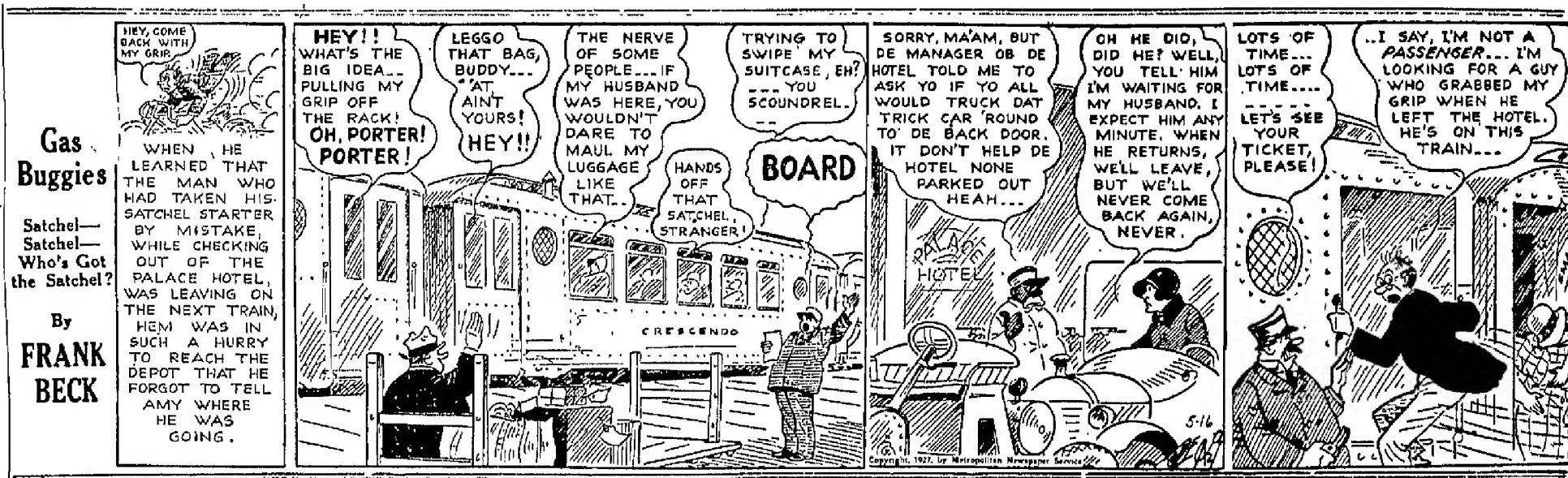
THAT SATCHEL IS VALUABLE... IT CONTAINS THE STARTER FOR MY COMPRESSED AIR CAR... I DISCOVERED THE MISTAKE AS I WAS STEPPING INTO MY CAR OUTSIDE.

SCUSE ME BOSS, BUT DE GUY WHO TOOK YO BAG IS GONE TO THE DEPOT. TRAIN GOES IN FIVE MINUTES.

MY STARS! WHAT ON EARTH... I HAVEN'T GOT THE SWITCH KEY... IT MUST BE IN YOUR OTHER CLOTHES... THEY'RE IN THAT SUITCASE ON THE SIDEWALK.

HEY BOY! COME HERE WITH THAT BICYCLE! OH BOY!

May 16, 1927
Decatur Herald

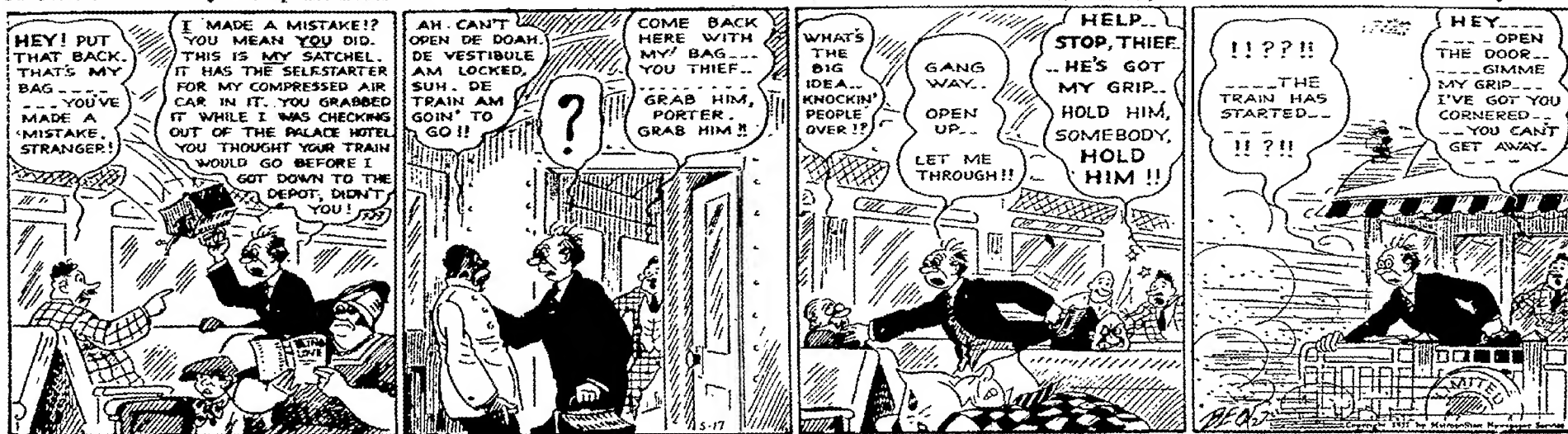


May 17, 1927
Daily Northwestern

GAS BUGGIES—Hey! Stop the Train!

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By BECK

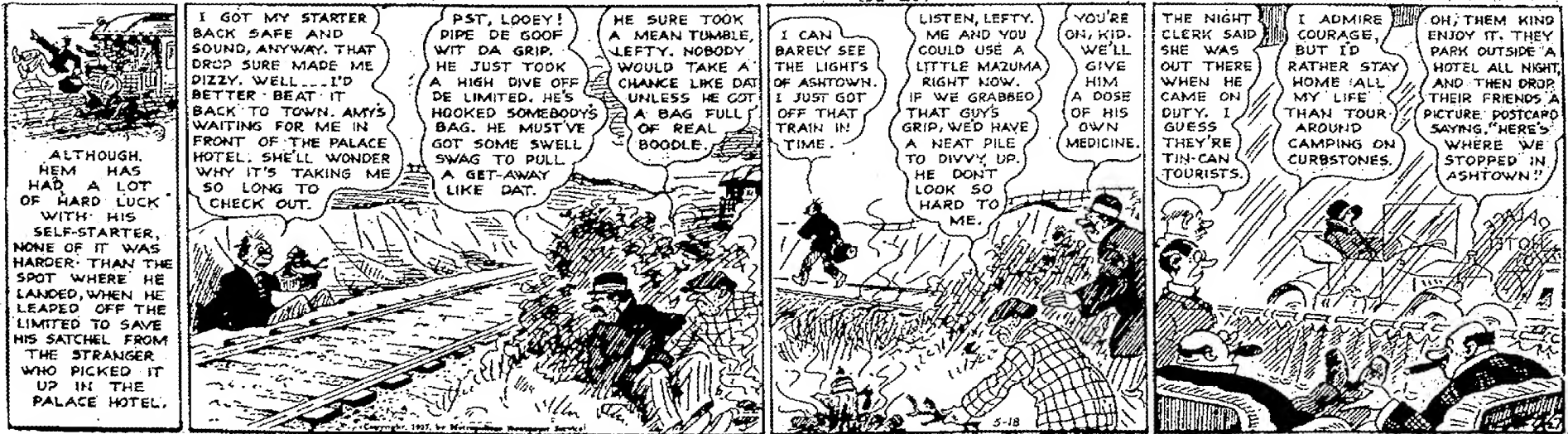


May 18, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Out Of The Frying Pan Into The Fire

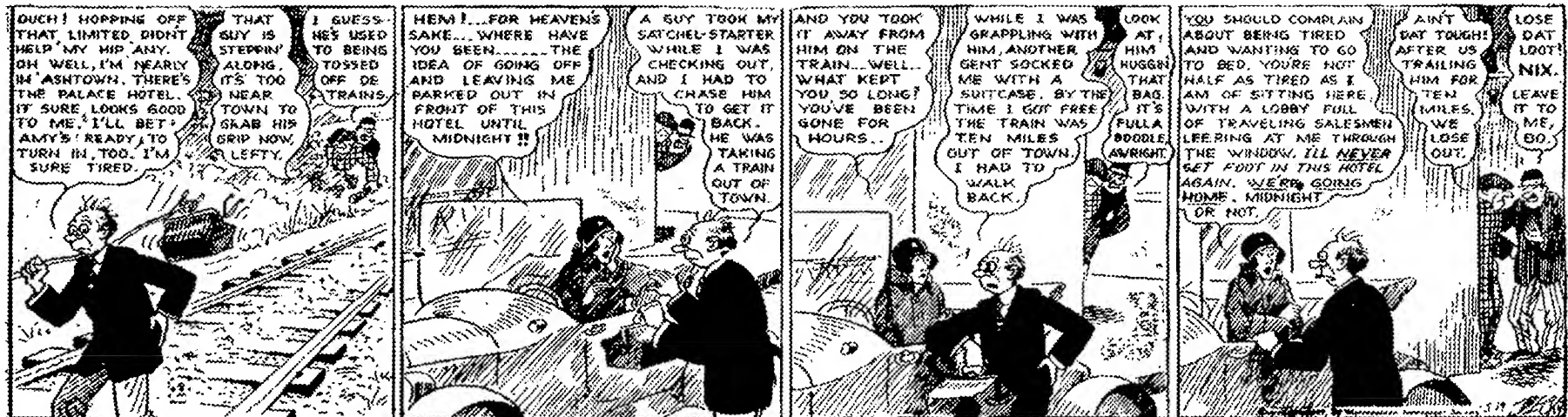
BY FRANK BECK



May 19, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



May 20, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Don't Stop Hem!

By
FRANK BECK

WE'RE GOING HOME!
COISES

AFTER WITNESSING HEM RECOVER HIS SATCHEL-STARTER BY LEAPING FROM THE LIMITED, AND MISTAKING IT FOR A SET-AWAY WITH A GRIP FULL OF GOLD, THE TWO HOBOS DECIDE TO HANG ON BEHIND, IN THE HOPE OF DUPLICATING THE HOLD-UP WHEN HEM AND AMY HEAD FOR HOME."

ALL RIGHT...ARE YOU READY.... REMEMBER NOW...STICK CLOSE BEHIND ME....I HAVEN'T ANY HEADLIGHTS ON THIS COMPRESSED AIR CAR. BUT DON'T BUMP THAT AIR TANK IN BACK, OR WE'LL BE OUT OF LUCK...

SALAD HOTEL

GO AHEAD, GO AHEAD. I'LL HANDLE THIS CAR.. YOU TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN.

GET SET, LOOEY. SOON'S THEY START WE'LL HOP ON THE BACK OF HER BUS. THE SPARE TIRE WILL MAKE A SWEET SEAT... THE FIRST CHANCE WE GET, BO, WE'LL BEAN HIM AND BEAT IT WIT DE BOODLE.

THIS IS PRETTY TOUGH TRAVELING, LOOEY. I'M GETTING A KINK IN ME BACK. WHADDY YUH SAY WE SPRAY 'EM WIT LEAD AND GET IT OVER WITH?

NAW! FORGET DE ROUGH STUFF. SOMETHING'LL HAPPEN SOON TO STOP 'EM. TAKE IT EASY. WE DON'T WANT NO BLOOD-HOUNDS SNAPPIN' AT OUR COAT-TAILS.

THERE.. I HAD TO GO INTO SECOND GEAR ON THIS DINKY HILL. IF HEM SLOWS UP ANY MORE I'LL HAVE TO STOP...

THAT'S FUNNY. SHE'S NOT TAKING THIS HILL THE WAY I THOUGHT SHE WOULD.... WERE A LONG WAY FROM THE TOP YET... MAYBE SHE WON'T MAKE IT??

May 21, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Dirty Work

BY FRANK BECK

HEY, AMY! PUT ON YOUR BRAKES.... I CAN'T MAKE THIS HILL... MY COMPRESSED AIR CAR IS OUT OF AIR. LOOK OUT...

STUCK!!

OH, WHAT A MESS... AND IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT TOO...

WATCH YOUR STEP, LEFTY. IT LOOKS LIKE OUR CHANCE HAS COME!

QUICK, LOOEY, HOP OFF OUT OF SIGHT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S THE MATTER. THE AIR PRESSURE SIMPLY DIED DOWN.

CAN'T YOU FIX IT?

HERE'S WHERE WE COLLECT, LEFTY. AS SOON AS HE STARTS FIXING HIS TRICK CAR, WE'LL GRAB DE SATCHEL. WE'LL GET IT A LOT EASIER DAN HE DID. NO HOPPIN' OFF TRAINS FOR US, EH, KID!

LISTEN A MINUTE... I THINK I HEAR AIR ESCAPING. IT SOUNDS LIKE A TACK IN A TIRE... KEEP STILL... LISTEN...

DO YOU REALIZE HOW LATE IT IS? IT'S HALF PAST ONE. AND WE'RE FOUR HUNDRED MILES FROM HOME YET. DON'T WASTE TIME STANDING AROUND TRAINING YOUR EARS... GET BUSY... DO SOMETHING!

LOOK! THERE'S THE SATCHEL UNDER THE FRONT SEAT. IT'S WIRED ON. THAT PROVES WE HAD THE RIGHT DOPPE ON IT BEING VALUABLE. I'LL BET IT'S STUFFED WIT THOUSAND DOLLAR BILLS.

AFTER ALL THE TROUBLE HE TOOK SWIPING DAT DOUGH, WE'LL HATE TO PART WIT IT... WELL, LET HIM HOLLER. IF HE GETS TOO NOISY, I'LL GIVE HIM SOMETHING ELSE TO THINK ABOUT.

May 23, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Hold It Boys
—Hold It.

By
FRANK BECK

TRAILING
HEM TO
THE SECLUDED
SPOT WHERE HIS
COMPRESSED AIR
CAR BROKE DOWN,
PROVED MUCH
EASIER FOR THE
TWO HOBOS
THAN AGREEING
ON THE BEST
PLAN FOR
ROBBING HIM
OF HIS
SATCHEL-STARTER,
WHICH THEY
MISTOOK FOR A
BAG OF
GOLD.

525

LISTEN, LEFTY, WHY
TAKE CHANCES ON
RUSHING HIM. HE MAY
BE IRONED AND SLIP US
A FEW HOT SLUGS. I'VE
GOT A BETTER STUNT.
I'LL GET THAT OIL CAN
WE PASSED, AND
PRETEND I'M OUT
OF GAS, WHEN HE
STEPS BEHIND HIS
BUS TO GET ME A
GALLON, YOU GRAB
THE BAG... GOOD
ENOUGH, AINT IT?

WHY ALL THE FUSS
ABOUT FRISKING HIM?
I'LL HIDE IN THE
BRUSH AND MAKE A
NOISE LIKE A KID
THAT'S LOST. I'LL
SAY, "PAPA, PAPA".
WHEN HE COMES
TOWARDS THE
BUSHES I'LL
REACH OUT
AND BEAN
HIM.

HOW CAN
I FIND THE
AIR LEAK?
I CAN'T DUCK
THE CAR IN
A TUB, LIKE
A TIRE,
CAN I?

BUT WHAT IF YOU
BUST HIM TOO HARD?
WHAT IF HE'S SUNK?
I DON'T WANNA LAY
AWAKE NIGHTS SEEING
THINGS AGAIN, LIKE
OF LAST TIME WHEN
YOU LAID IT ON TOO
HARD. I'LL NEVER FORGET
DE FUNNY LOOK ON
DAT GUY'S FACE. HE
KNEW HE WAEN'T
COMING OUT
OF IT. HE...

SAY! HOW ABOUT
YOURSELF, BO?
REMEMBER THAT
PAYROLL JOB WHEN
YOU WAS SO
QUICK ON THE
TRIGGER? WELL
THEY'RE STILL
OFFERING \$5,000
DEAD OR ALIVE
FOR YOU, AND
DON'T FORGET
IT.

YOU YELLOW
CROOK... ARE
YOU SQUAWKING
ON ME...
... ARE YUH...
... IF I
THOUGHT...

WAIT A
MINUTE,
LOOEY... I
DIDN'T MEAN
NOTHIN'...
... ON THE
LEVEL, LOOEY.
GEE, DON'T
BE SO
TOUCHY, KID.
FORGET
IT.

LISTEN,
AMY, WHAT
IS THAT
NOISE? IT
SOUNDS
LIKE THE
PUMP IS
WORKING.



May 24, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Saved

BY FRANK BECK

LISTEN, LEFTY, WE
DIDN'T TRAIL HIM
AND HIS TRICK CAR
CLEAR UP HERE TO
PULL A JOB ON EACH
OTHER. WERE AFTER
THAT GRIP FULL OF
GOLD HE GRABBED
OFF THE LIMITED.
LET'S FORGET OUR
SCRAP AND WORK
TOGETHER.

I DIDN'T MEAN
NOTHING BY WHAT
I SAID LOOEY. I
APOLOGIZE. LET'S
GET BUSY ON
THIS BOOB. FIRST
WE'LL GO AND
GET THAT OIL
CAN WE
SAW
BACK
AWAYS

THEN I'LL COME DOWN
THE ROAD AND SAY
MY CAR RAN OUT
OF GAS. WHILE HE'S
BEHIND HIS BUS
GETTING ME SOME,
YOU SLIP OUT IN
FRONT AND
GRAB THE
GRIP.

LISTEN,
HEM. IS
THAT
SOUND
THE AIR
PRESSURE
BEING
PUMPED
UP?
SURE.
WE'LL
BE
ABLE
TO
ROLL
SOON.

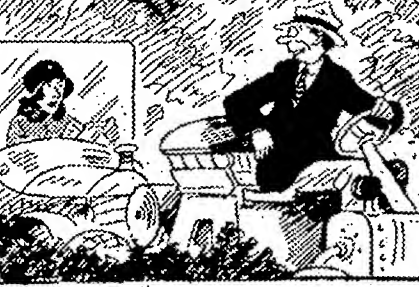
O.K.
IT'S EASY
PICKINGS,
KID.

I'M ALL READY
TO GO... LET'S
GET STARTED...
IT'S NEARLY
THREE A.M.
NOW, AND WERE
A LONG WAYS
FROM HOME.

ALL SET!!
... THEN
WE'RE OFF.
KEEP CLOSE
BEHIND ME.
I'M NOT GOING
TO STOP
AGAIN IF
I CAN
HELP IT.

LOOK, LEFTY!
THEY'RE GONE...
... SKIPPED OUT...
... BEAT IT...
JUST AS WE
WERE READY
TO FRISK 'EM.
... WELL
I'LL BE...

SAY, BO! WAS
THAT A STALL,
THAT GAS OF
GOING BACK
FOR A GAS
CAN? IF I
THOUGHT YOU'D
GOT SOFT AND
FRAMED THEIR
GET-AWAY.



May 25, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES

By
Frank Beck

Hem Is Home—
Curses.

WHAT A DUMB TRICK! YOU SAW THE GARAGE THERE...YOU KNEW THE DOORS WERE LOCKED...WHY TRY TO SHOVE ME THROUGH THEM...IF YOU HADN'T BEEN TRAILING SO CLOSE BEHIND ME, YOU COULD'VE PUT THE BRAKES ON...

I TELL YOU I DID PUT ON THE BRAKES. THE CAR JUST SLID AHEAD ANYWAY. YOU NEEDN'T JUMP ON ME ABOUT IT...

--- BLAME THE NEIGHBORS...THEY THREW ALL THOSE ORANGE PEELINGS AND BANANA SKINS ON THE DRIVEWAY, NOT ME.

FOR THE... LOOK, LULU, LOOK WHO'S IN THE BACK YARD... --YE GODS.

I KNOW WHO IT IS WITHOUT LOOKING... YOU CAN HEAR HEM AND AMY COMING A MILE AWAY.... WELL, THAT SETTLES IT... I'VE MADE UP MY MIND ABOUT GOING AWAY FOR THE SUMMER. YOU RUN RIGHT DOWN TOWN AND FETCH HOME SOME FOLDERS.

SPEAK OF SATAN AND HE'S SURE TO SHOW UP. SONORA. THE BACKYARD BULLY HAS COME HOME TO ROOST... AND WILL YOU LOOK WHAT HE'S BROUGHT HOME WITH HIM? SOMETHING NEW TO ANNOY THE NEIGHBORS WITH.

I HAD A PECULIAR DREAM LAST NIGHT. IT GAVE ME THE CREEPS. I COULD FEEL MYSELF BEING DRAGGED DOWN AND DOWN. AND THEN I WOKE UP. THAT ALWAYS MEANS BAD LUCK, BUT I NEVER SUSPECTED THIS.

May 26, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

Sh! A Secret

BY FRANK BECK

WELL, HEM, NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT YOUR COMPRESSED AIR CAR HOME, WHEN WILL YOU START MAKING THEM? I SUPPOSE WHEN YOU DO, WE'LL HAVE ALL THE NEIGHBORS ON OUR NECKS AGAIN.

WE'VE GOT PLENTY TO DO AMY, WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THEM. IN THE FIRST PLACE I'VE GOT TO IRON OUT A FEW WRINKLES IN THE BUS BEFORE IT'S READY TO ENTER THE MARKET.

I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL FINISHED...READY TO WEAR...AS THEY SAY ABOUT STORE CLOTHES. I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN, THOUGH, THAT YOU'D FIND SOME EXCUSE FOR TEARING IT ALL DOWN.

AS IT IS NOW, THOSE PUMPS ON THE SIDE THAT ARE GEARED TO THE REAR WHEELS DON'T GENERATE ENOUGH AIR PRESSURE TO CARRY IT OVER A STEEP HILL. I'VE GOT TO DOPE OUT A SYSTEM FOR SPEEDING THE PUMPS UP FASTER.

WHY DON'T YOU ASK THE MAN NEXT DOOR? HIS WIFE CLAIMS HE'S A WONDER AT FIXING THINGS. HE FIXED THEIR SWISS CLOCK. IT KEEPS POOR TIME, BUT IT RUNS.

WHAT! TAKE ALL THE NEIGHBORS INTO MY CONFIDENCE? HAVE EVERY ONE IN TOWN KNOW ALL ABOUT OUR SECRET INVENTION BEFORE I GET MY PATENTS ?? NO SIR...I WON'T TELL A ---

HEY! QUIT THAT PUSHIN'!

DON'T CROWD SO HARD.

LOOK OUT!

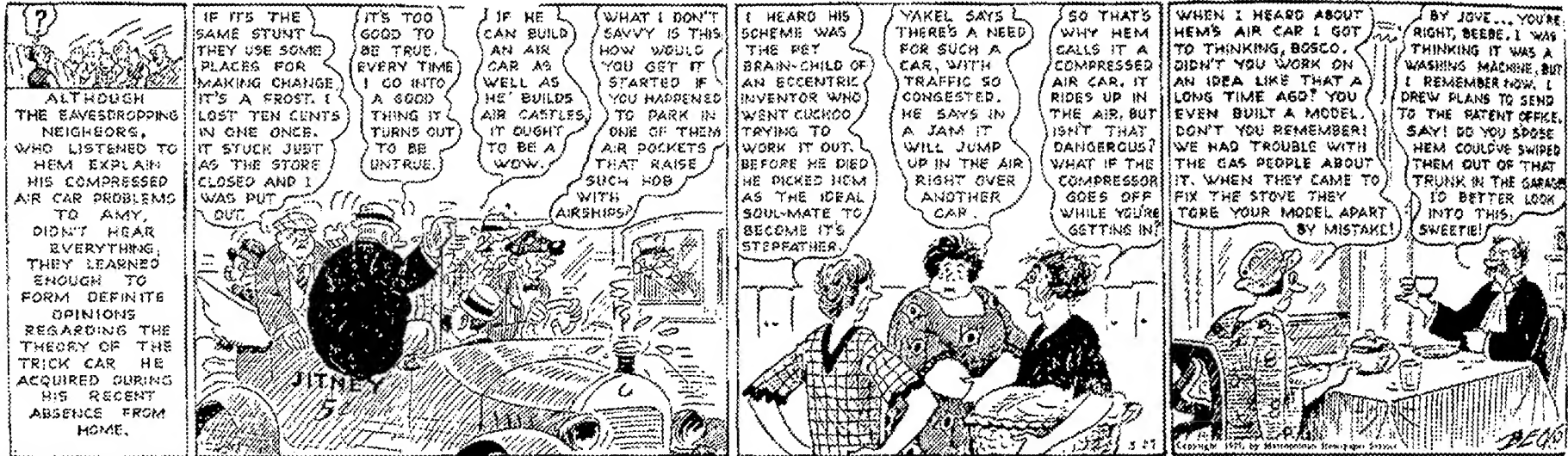
LEAN ON YOUR OWN DINNER!

May 27, 1927
The Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

You Can't Fool All the People.

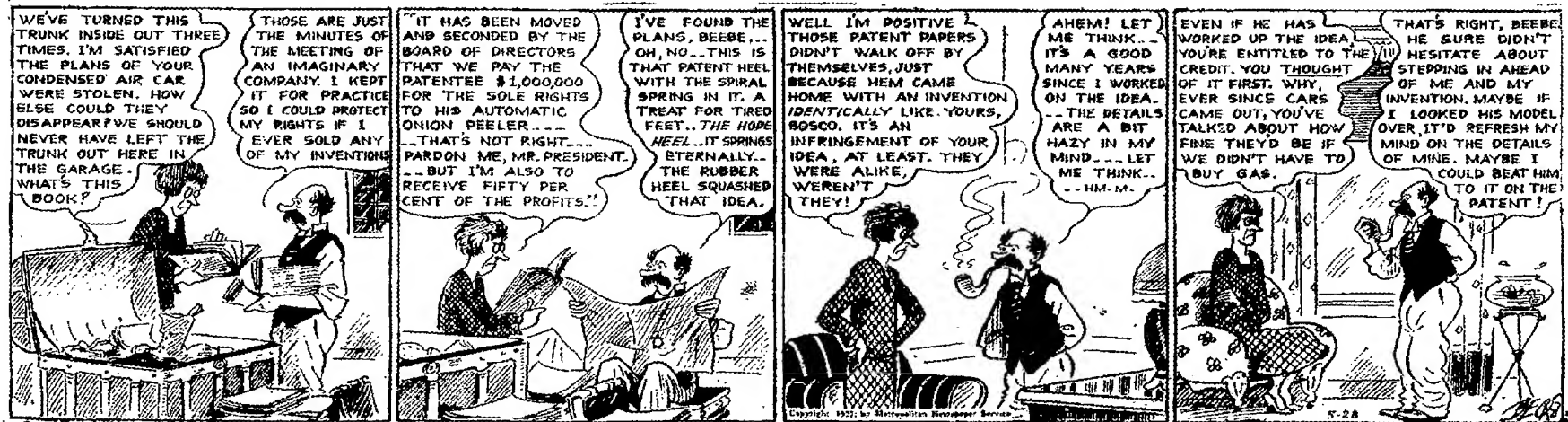
By FRANK BECK



May 28, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



May 30, 1927
Daily Northwestern

GAS BUGGIES—Team Work

(Copyright, 1927, by Metropolitan Newspaper Service)

By BECK

SPECULATING ON THE SENSATIONAL POSSIBILITIES OF HEM'S COMPRESSED AIR CAR HAS SO EXCITED HIS ENVOUS NEIGHBORS. BOSCO AND BEEBE, THAT THEY HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY CONVINCING THEMSELVES IT'S A COPY OF THE MAKE-BELIEVE CAR HE INVENTED YEARS AGO. IN HIS IMAGINATION.

THE MORE I THINK ABOUT THE MILLIONS HEM WILL MAKE OUT OF YOUR IDEA, THE MADDER I GET, BOSCO. I REMEMBER DISTINCTLY THAT THE CAR YOU INVENTED WORKED EXACTLY LIKE HIS. OH, IF YOU COULD ONLY RECALL THE DETAILS OF YOURS, WE'D SUE HIM FOR INFRINGEMENT.

I DON'T KNOW HOW HEM'S CAR WORKS, BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT HE USED MY IDEA. I THOUGHT SO AS SOON AS YOU SPOKE OF IT, BUT I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING FOR FEAR IT MIGHT UPSET YOU, BEEBE.

WHAT WE COULDN'T DO WITH A MILLION DOLLARS... BOSCO... AND TO THINK HEM HAD THE NERVE TO PUT THE AIR PUMPS ON THE SIDE THE SAME AS YOU DID. HE EVEN CONNECTED THEM UP SO THE BACK WHEELS WOULD MAKE THEM PUMP... YOUR IDEA EXACTLY...

HE DID, EH? I'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT THOSE AIR PUMPS, BUT NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I REMEMBER. THAT'S THE WAY I WORKED MINE, TOO. I'D BETTER GO OVER AND SEE IF HEM'S USING ANY MORE OF MY IDEAS.

WE'LL JUST DROP IN ON THEM, ACCIDENTAL LIKE, BEEBE. WE WON'T MENTION MY INVENTION JUST YET. NO USE GETTING HIM ALL HET UP TILL I'VE SEEN HIS CAR AND HOW IT WORKS.

OH NO, ALVA, HE ISN'T GOOFY. HE'S AN INVENTOR. JUST ASSENT MINDED, THAT'S ALL. HALF THE TIME HE GOES AROUND WITH HIS COAT INSIDE OUT.

May 31, 1927
The Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

On Guard

BY FRANK BECK

JUST A MINUTE, SIR... LET ME EXPLAIN. I SAY, LET...

OUTSIDE... ON YOUR WAY... BEAT IT BEFORE I BUST YOU AGAIN. ALL RIGHT, IF YOU WANT AN ARGUMENT, TAKE THAT. AND...

I DON'T CARE WHO HE IS... HE HAS NO BUSINESS PRETENDING HE'S A COP AND CRASHING OUR GARAGE, JUST BECAUSE HE WEARS A BUILDING INSPECTOR'S BADGE. ALL HE WAS LOOKING FOR WAS A CHANCE TO GET THE DOPE ON OUR COMPRESSED AIR CAR, AMY.

EVERYBODY'S SO ENVOUS OF OUR GOOD FORTUNE, THEY'D GIVE ANYTHING TO GET HOLD OF THE IDEA. WE'LL HAVE TO GUARD IT CAREFULLY.

WELL, I DECLARE... THE WORLD MUST BE COMING TO AN END... LOOK WHO'S COMING TO CALL ON US... BOSCO AND BEEBE...

WHAT DO THEY WANT... WELL, WHATEVER IT IS, THEY WON'T GET IT. I'M THROUGH LENDING THAT WOULD-BE MECHANIC MY GOOD TOOLS TO LEAVE LYING AROUND IN THE WET GRASS.

REMEMBER NOW, BOSCO, DON'T YOU BLURT OUT ANYTHING ABOUT US HAVING INVENTED A CONDENSED AIR CAR FIRST, YOU SIT BACK AND SAY NOTHING. LET ME DO THE TALKING. IT TAKES TACT TO HANDLE HEM. I'LL HAVE HIM SHOWING US THE CAR IN NO TIME. WE'LL SOON SEE WHERE HE'S SWIPED OUR IDEAS.

I PUT ON A CLEAN SHIRT SO I COULD MAKE NOTES ABOUT IT ON THE CUFFS. I'M ALSO BRINGING BACK HIS MONEY WRENCH ALL BUSTY. IT'LL BE A GOOD EXCUSE TO GO OUT TO THE GARAGE. I'LL SAY I WANT TO CLEAN IT. CLEVER, EH, BEEBE!

June 1, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Try, Try Again.

By **FRANK BECK**

Panel 1: UNDER THE PRETEXT OF RETURNING BORROWED TOOLS, BOSCO AND BEBE, THE TWO NEIGHBORS WHO COVET HEM'S COMPRESSED AIR CAR CALLED TODAY IN SEARCH OF MORE EXACT INFORMATION TO CONFIRM THEIR SUSPICIONS THAT IT IS A COPY OF THE CAR THEY INVENTED IN THEIR IMAGINATION.

Panel 2: SPEAKING OF THE HIGH COST OF LIVING, REMINDS ME I SAW AN ARTICLE IN THE PAPER BY A PROFESSOR SCHWARTZ WHO PREDICTED THE DAY WAS COMING WHEN WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO BUY GAS FOR OUR AUTOMOBILES. RUN ON THEIR REPUTATION, I SUPPOSE... GR... HA HA... ON AIR?

Panel 3: ISN'T BOSCO DROLL, HEM? IMAGINE A CAR RUNNING ON AIR... HA HA... I CAN'T CONCEIVE OF SUCH A THING. EVEN IF SUCH A CAR WERE INVENTED, THE BIG GASOLINE COMPANIES WOULD SOON PUT A STOP TO IT. DON'T YOU THINK SO?

Panel 4: LISTEN! YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO KEEP KICKING ME ON THE SHINS. DON'T YOU PROSE I WAS WISE TO THEM! DIDN'T YOU TUMBLE TO MY GAME? I'D PRETEND I WAS GOING TO TALK, AND THEN END UP IN A WISE-CRACK, JUST TO SEE THEIR FACES FALL.

June 2, 1927
Daily Northwestern, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

GAS BUGGIES-- When Hem--Close That Door

(Copyright, 1927, by Metropolitan Newspaper Service)

By BECK

Panel 1: QUICK, BOSCO. THERE'S HEM OUT IN THE GARAGE WORKING ON HIS COMPRESSED AIR CAR. WILL BE HUSTLE RIGHT OVER. THEN I'LL CALL HIM ON THE PHONE. I'LL SAY IT'S VERY IMPORTANT, SO AMY'LL GET EXCITED AND PUSH HIM INTO THE HOUSE SO FAST HE'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT LOCKING THE GARAGE DOOR.

Panel 2: AND THEN SEEDS. WILL BE MY CHANCE TO GET THE LOW-DOWN ON HIS TRICK CAR, AND SEE JUST HOW HE'S USING MY IDEAS.

Panel 3: HELLO... GOOD-BYE... CAN'T YOU READ THOSE SIGNS... GR... DON'T YOU BELIEVE IN 'EM?

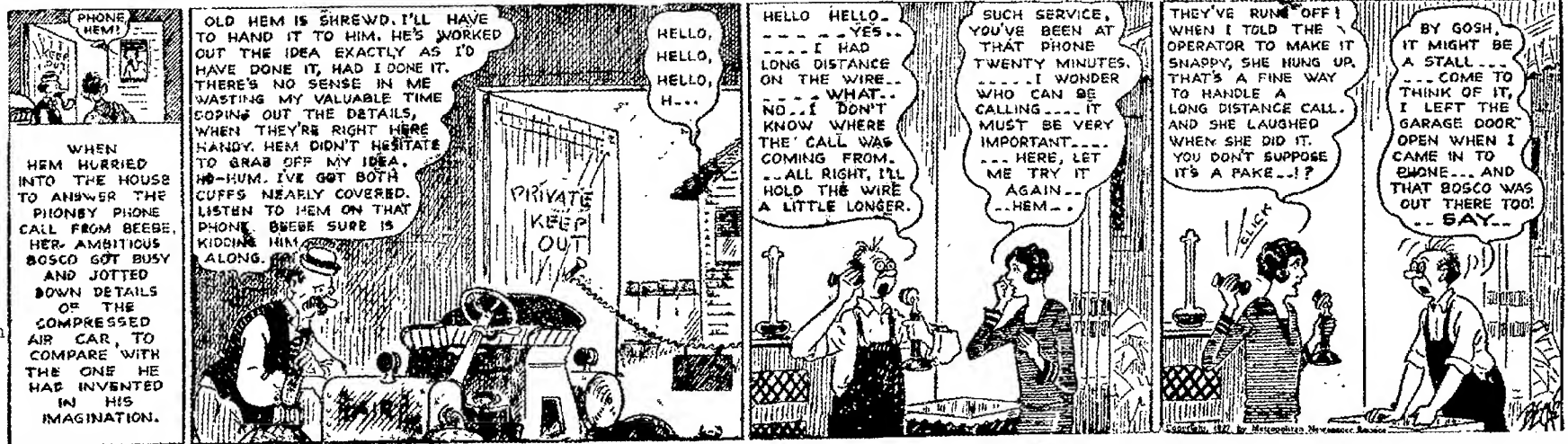
Panel 4: COMING, COMING!! TELL CENTRAL TO HOLD IT... DON'T LET HER HANG UP...

June 3, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES

By
Frank Beck

The Serpent In
The Garden.

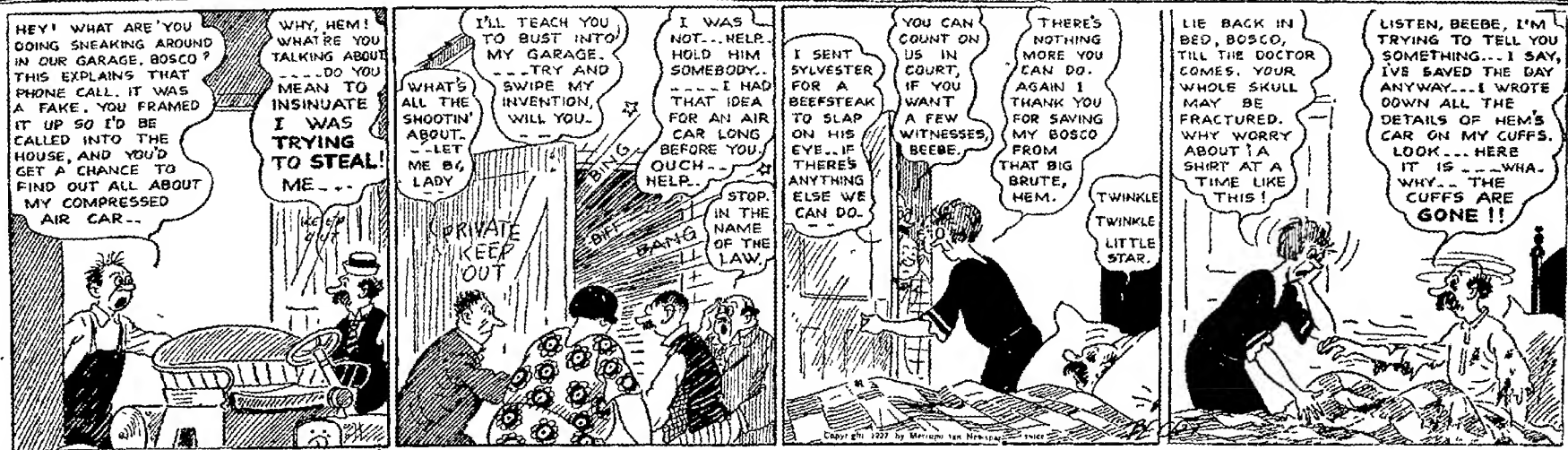


June 4, 1927
Edwardsville Intelligencer

GAS BUGGIES

By
Frank Beck

A Close Shave.

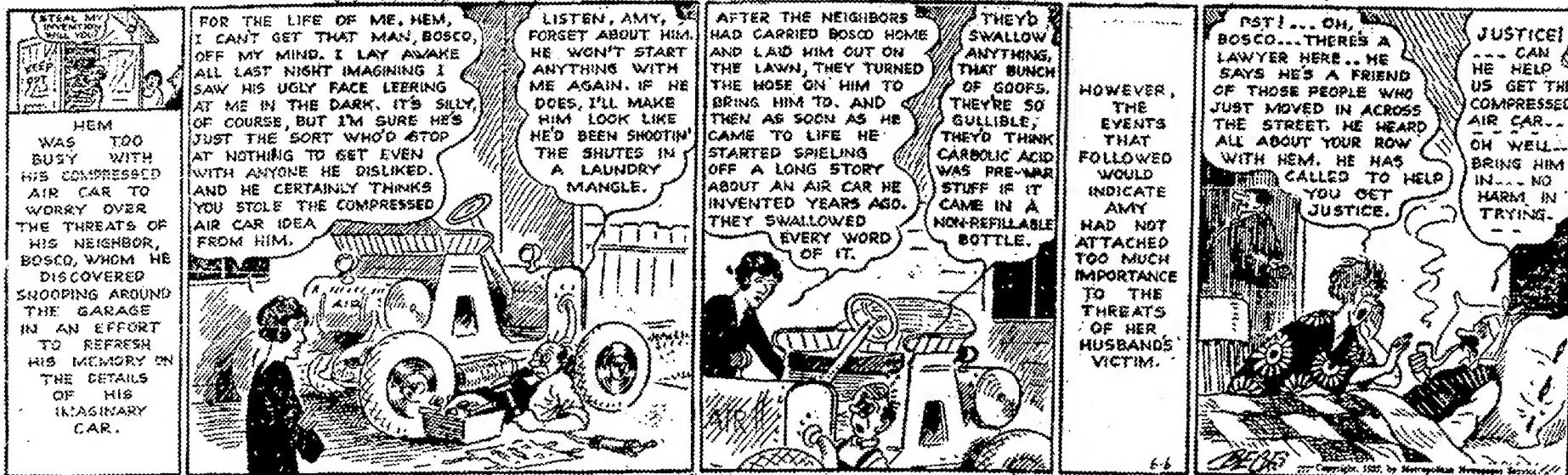


June 6, 1927

Daily Herald Times Press, Middletown, New York

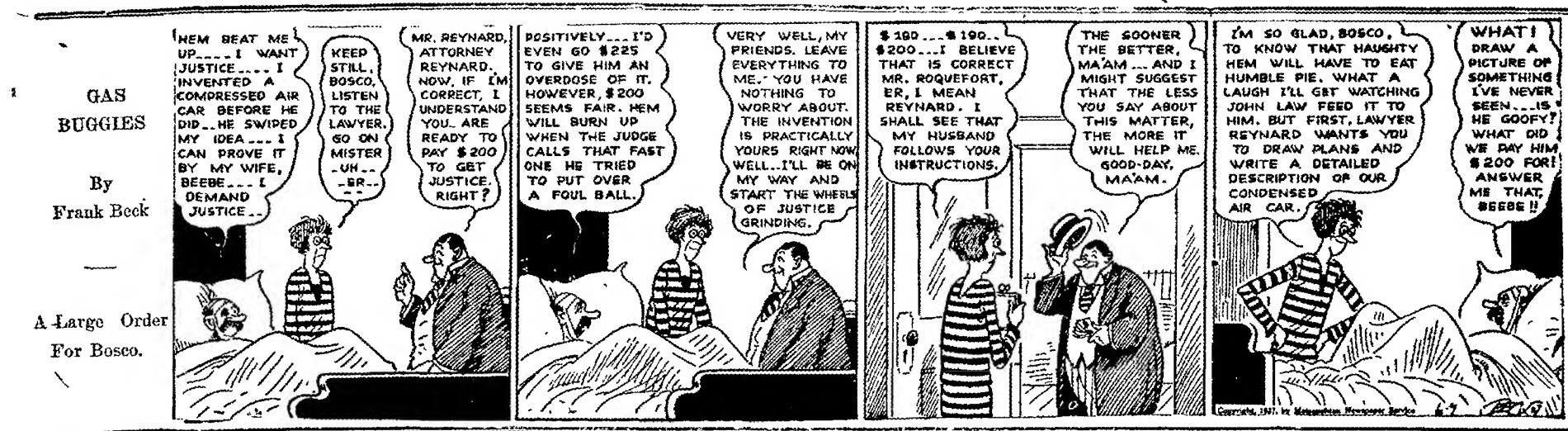
GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK



June 7, 1927

Edwardsville Intelligencer



June 8, 1927
Daily Northwestern

GAS BUGGIES—Hem and Amy (Continued) On the Wall

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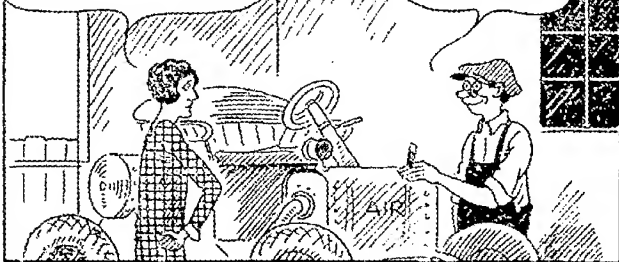
By BECK



AMV'S FEARS OF WHAT THEIR NEIGHBOR, BOSCO, WHO WANTS SOMETHING FOR NOTHING, MIGHT DO ABOUT GETTING IT, WERE PARTLY JUSTIFIED BY CONVERSATIONS SHE OVERHEARD AMONG THE NEIGHBORS, WHO MADE NO EFFORT TO KEEP THEIR OPINIONS A SECRET.

HEM, AT LEAST TWENTY PEOPLE STOPPED ME TO ASK ABOUT HOW YOU GOT HOLD OF THE COMPRESSED AIR CAR. BOSCO HAS TOLD SO MANY PEOPLE ITS HIS IDEA THAT HE ACTUALLY BELIEVES IT HIMSELF. EVERY TIME I EXPLAINED TO ANYONE THAT YOU INHERITED IT, THEY'D ACT LIKE CHILDREN WATCHING A PIE-THROWING CONTEST IN THE MOVIES.

LISTEN, AMY, I'VE GOT A STUNT ALL RIGGED UP FOR FILLIN' THAT RESERVE AIR TANK IN THE REAR WHILE RUNNING ON THE LEVEL. THEN ON HILLS I CAN USE THE EXTRA PRESSURE AS A BOOSTER TO PUT US OVER THE TOP. COME ON AND HELP TRY IT OUT.



WHEN I WAS IN SPROULES BUTTER STORE BOSCO'S WIFE BOUNCED IN AND STARTED BLABBING ALL OVER THE PLACE ABOUT BOSCO GETTING EVEN WITH YOU. WHEN SHE SAW ME, SHE TURNED AS RED AS A BEET AND NEARLY FELL OVER HERSELF GETTING OUT.



OH BOY! WE'RE SURE STEPPING ALONG... NOW FOR THE BIG HILL... IF WE MAKE IT, OUR TROUBLES ARE OVER... ATTA BABY... DO YOUR STUFF... OVER THE TOP...

HOT DOG... DID YOU NOTICE HOW SHE IRONED OUT THAT HILL... THIS BUS CAN CLIMB A BARN... NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS DOPE OUT A WAY OF GETTING INTO THAT SATCHEL-STARTER WITHOUT BUSTING THE MAINSPRING.

WHEN I'D PASS A BUNCH OF GOSSIPS THEY'D SHUT UP LIKE CLAMS... BUT THE MINUTE I GOT BY, THEY'D START THEIR GABBING AGAIN. IT WAS ALL FOR MY BENEFIT. I'M SURE BOSCO IS UP TO SOMETHING.



June 9, 1927
Kingston Daily Freeman

GAS BUGGIES—All Plans Look Alike to Beebe.

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT AILS MY MEMORY, BEEBE. THIS IS THE TENTH TIME I'VE TRIED TO DRAW A SKETCH OF OUR CONDENSED AIR CAR, BUT THE MORE I TRY THE WORSE I GET. I'LL ADMIT IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE I'VE WORKED ON IT.



I CAN EXPLAIN IT, BOSCO. ITS ANOTHER SAMPLE OF HEM'S DIRTY WORK... HE MADE HIS COMPRESSED AIR CAR SO COMPLICATED THAT YOU GOT ALL BAWLED UP LOOKING AT IT AND FORGOT HOW YOUR ORIGINAL IDEA WORKED. SUCH A LOW-LIVED SCHEMER.

I'VE BEEN BENDING OVER THIS BOARD TILL I'M DIZZY. ALL I CAN REMEMBER IS WHERE THE WHEELS AND AXLES GO. I'LL JUST HAVE TO TELL OUR LAWYER ABOUT THE PREDICAMENT THAT SCOUNDREL HEM HAS GOT ME INTO, AND CALL OFF THE WHOLE...



WHAT! AND LET HEM GET BY WITH MURDER! NEVER!! HERE, RUN THROUGH THIS BUNCH OF BRAINY IDEAS THAT WERE SUPPOSED TO SET THE WORLD ON FIRE YEARS AGO. PICK OUT THE PLAN THAT LOOKS THE MOST LIKE AN AIR CAR AND USE IT.



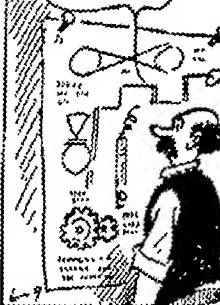
I KNOW THIS SKETCH SHOWS A LOT OF COGWHEELS AND WHIRLYMAGIES, AS YOU CALL THEM, BUT EVEN A BLIND MAN CAN SEE ITS A WASHING MACHINE. HOWEVER, IF YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT IT...



AS I REMEMBER IT, SWEETHEART, THE PATENT OFFICE GRANTED YOU A PATENT ON A PERCOLATOR WHEN YOU SENT IN THIS PLAN. BUT LET'S NOT GET ON A DETOUR... DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE THE TITLE "WASHING MACHINE" TO "CONDENSED AIR CAR."



WELL, THERE IT IS. IF YOU CAN MAKE HEAD OR TAIL OUT OF IT YOU WIN THE DIAMOND-STUDDED WIENEWURST. AT LEAST IT WILL GIVE THOSE SWIVEL CHAIR COWBOYS IN THE PATENT OFFICE A LITTLE SKULL PRACTISE.



THE MORE COMPLICATED IT IS, THE HARDER IT WILL BE FOR THEM TO REFUSE US A PATENT. THE NEXT STEP IS TO TAKE IT TO OUR LAWYER AND GET HIM PRIMED UP SO HE CAN PUT IT OVER.



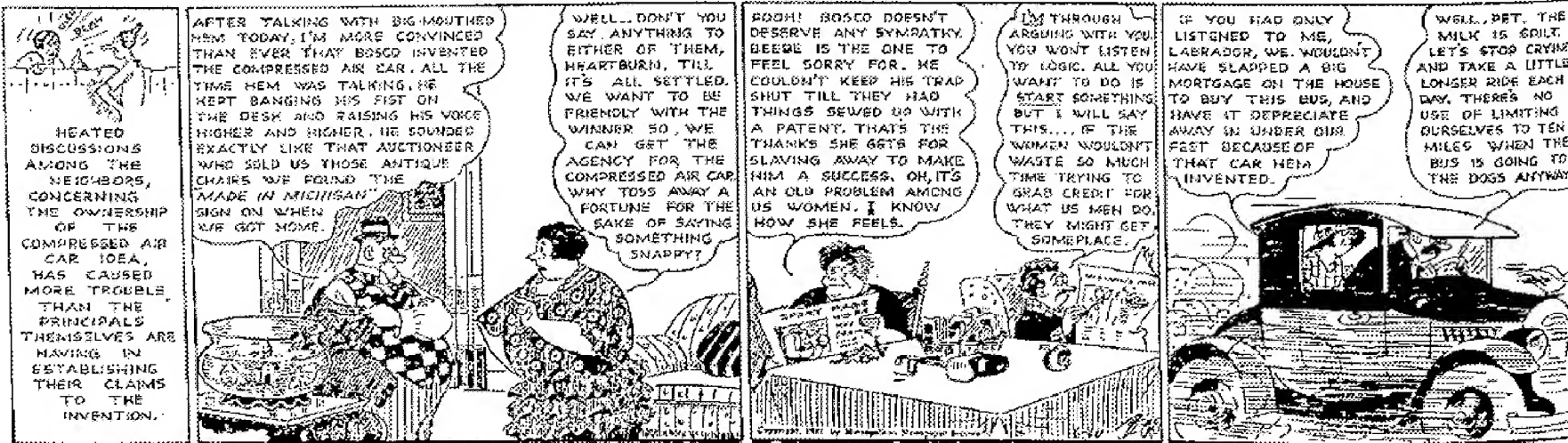
June 10, 1927

The Portsmouth Daily Times

GAS BUGGIES

What Others Think

BY FRANK BECK



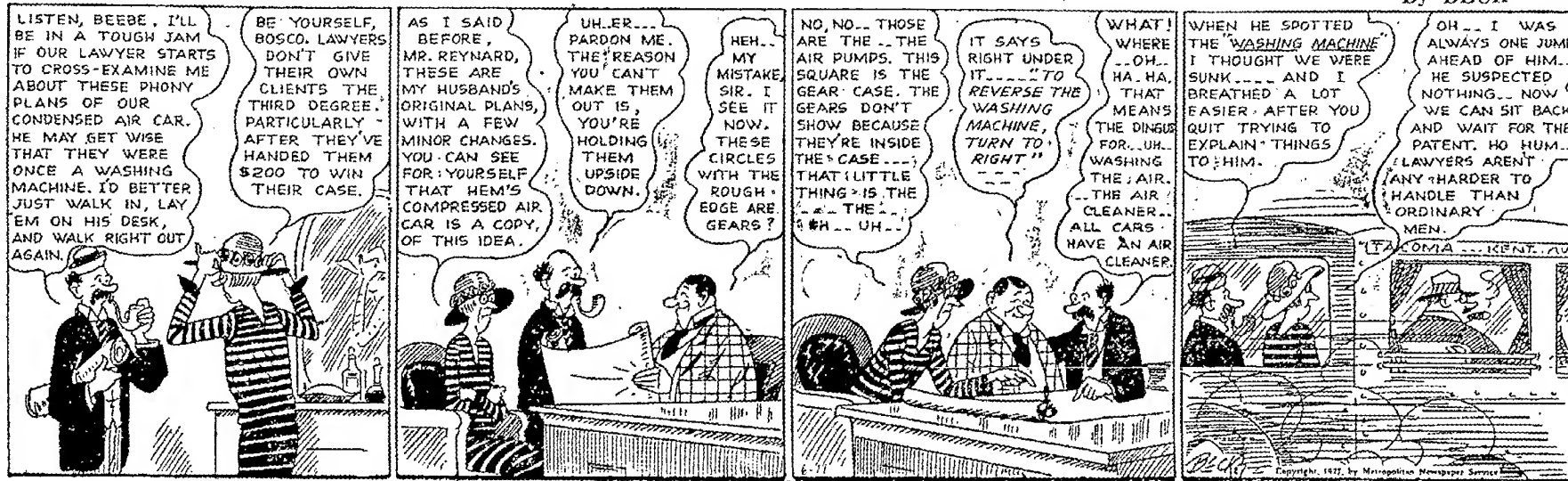
June 11, 1927

Daily Northwestern

GAS BUGGIES—Leave It to Beebe

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By BECK

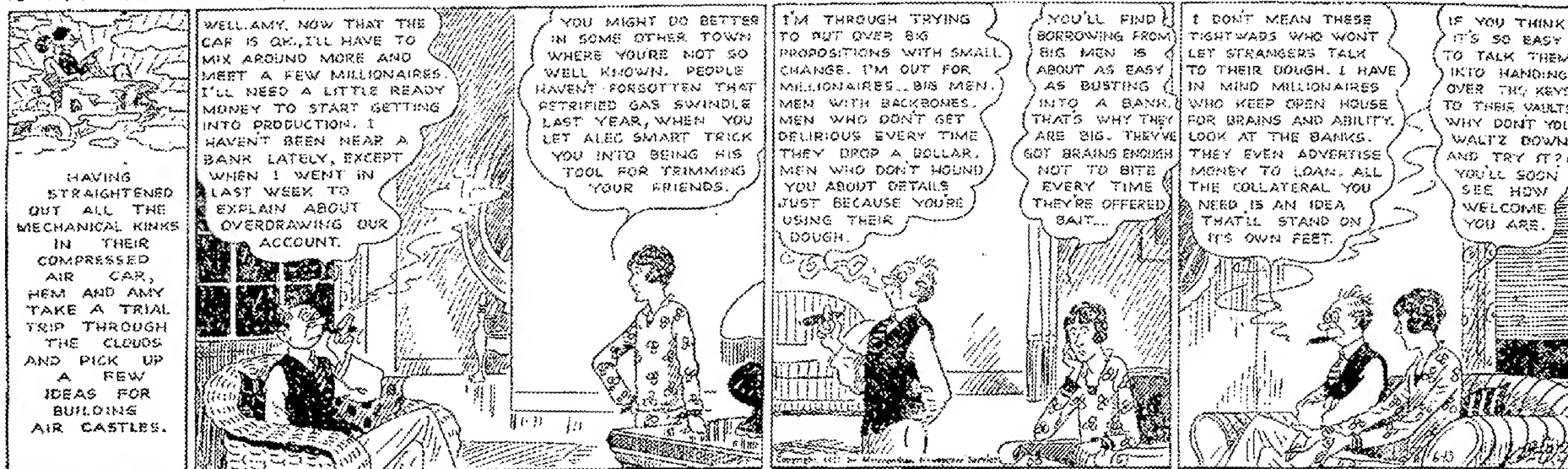


June 13, 1927
Daily Northwestern

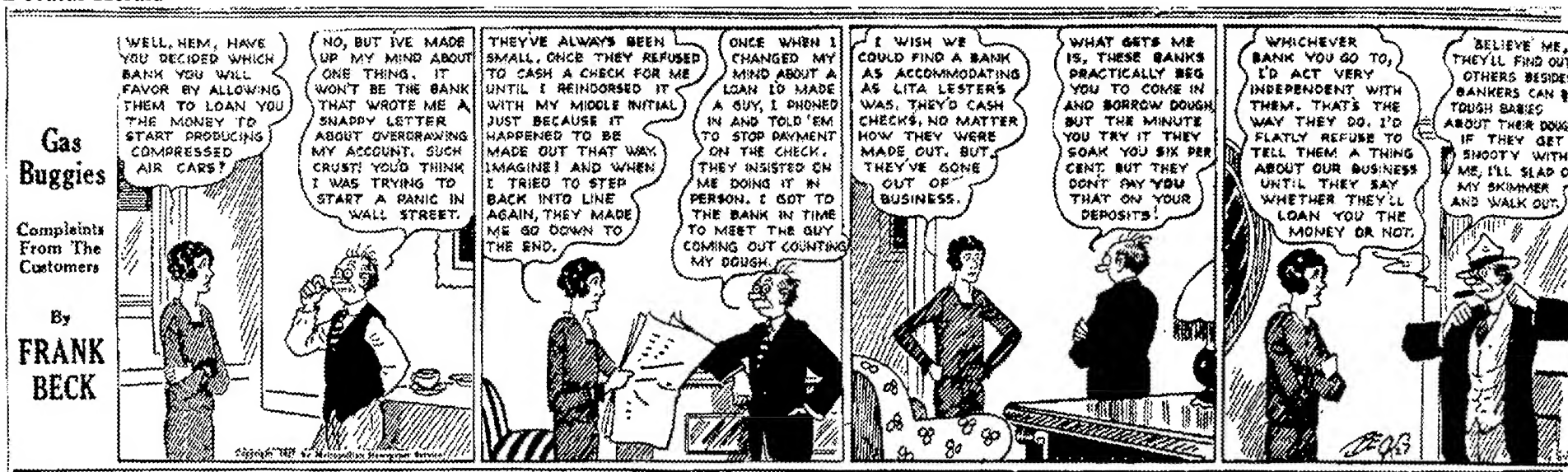
GAS BUGGIES—Dream On, Hem

(Copyright, 1927, by Metropolitan Newspaper Service)

By BECK



June 14, 1927
Decatur Herald

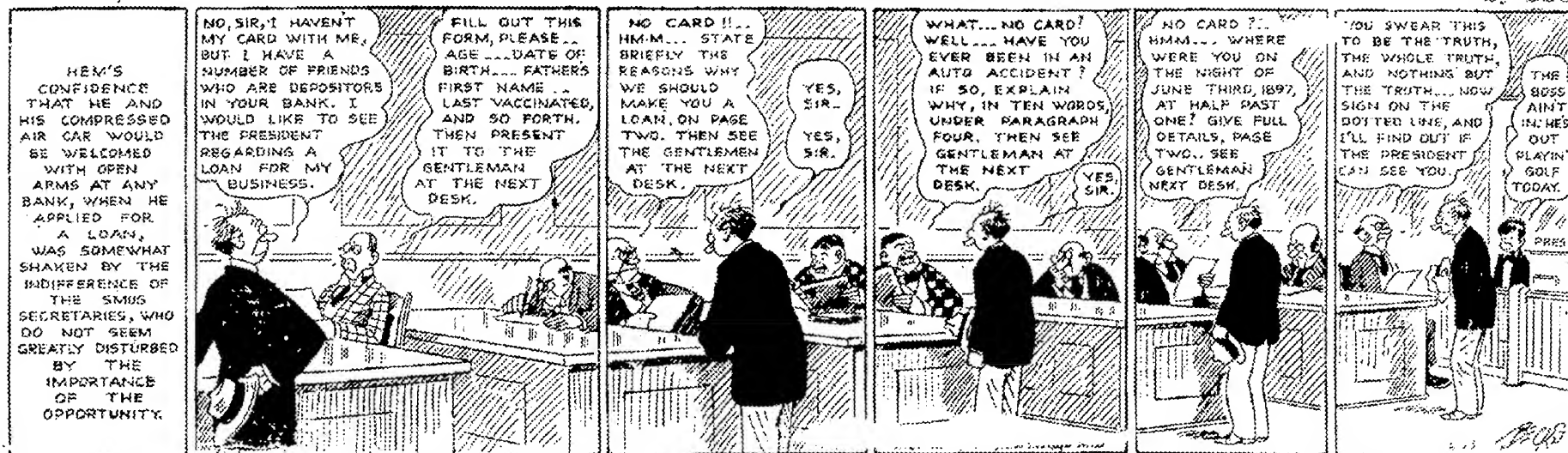


June 15, 1927
Daily Northwestern

GAS BUGGIES—Now You Ask One

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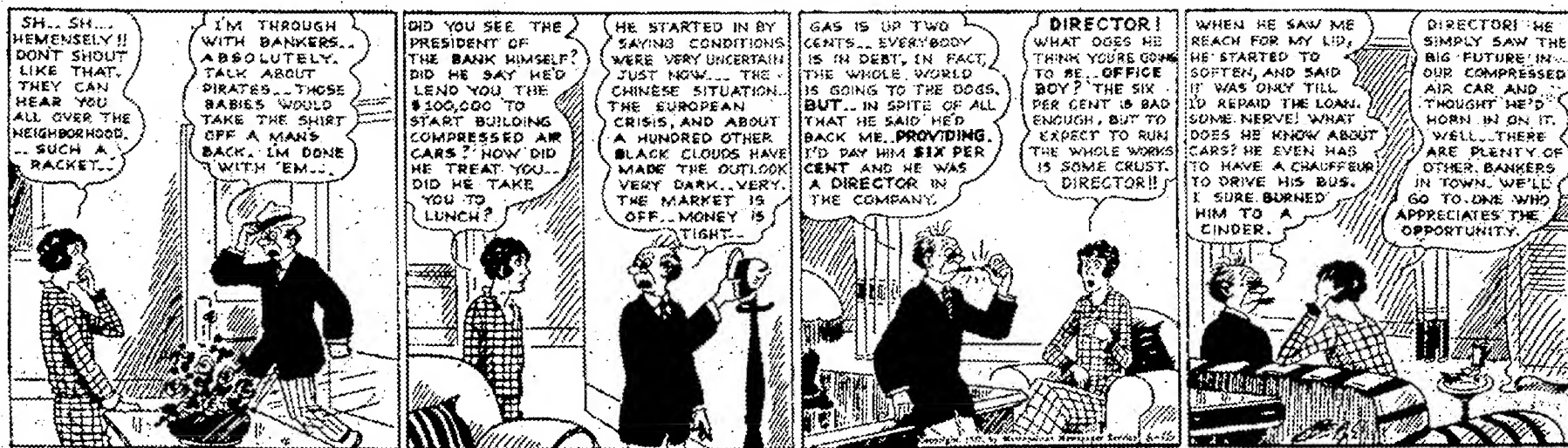
By BECK



June 16, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Times
GAS BUGGIES

Wanted — A Big-Hearted Banker

BY FRANK BECK



June 17, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

This Way Out.

By
FRANK BECK

AFTER REJECTING THE REASONABLE TERMS ON A \$100,000 LOAN FOR PRODUCING COMPRESSED AIR CARS, FROM ONE BANKER, BECAUSE HE DESIRED TO BE A DIRECTOR UNTIL HE RECOVERED HIS DOUGH, HEM DECIDES TO SHOP AROUND IN THE BANKING DISTRICT AND DISCUSS TERMS WITH A FEW OTHER FINANCIERS.

YOU'VE HEARD MY PROPOSITION, GENTLEMEN. I'VE TALKED WITH ANOTHER BANKER. HE AGREED IT WAS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO GET IN ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF A GOOD THING. BUT WHEN WE TALKED TURKEY, HE DIDN'T SHOW APPRECIATION OF THE OPPORTUNITY. SO I DECIDED TO GIVE YOU BOYS A CRACK AT IT.

AHEM. OF COURSE, WE MUST LOOK AT THINGS FROM THE BANKER'S ANGLE. THE PROBLEM OF A BANKER IS NOT GETTING INTO THINGS SO MUCH AS IT IS GETTING OUT OF THEM. AM I NOT RIGHT, MR. VICE-PRESIDENT?

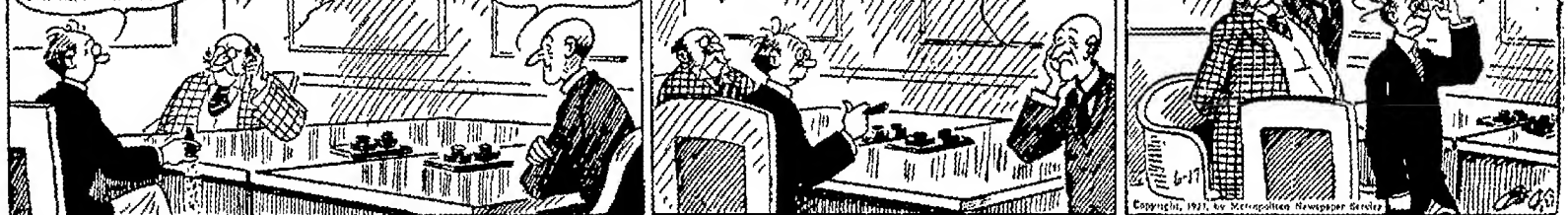
ABSOLUTELY, MR. PRESIDENT. SAFETY FIRST IS THE MOTTO OF OUR STOCKHOLDERS. OVEREAGERNESS IN ANSWERING KNOCKS AT THE DOOR IS A WEAKNESS THAT TOO OFTEN ADMITS CREDITORS INSTEAD OF OPPORTUNITY.

HOWEVER, THERE'S NO HARM IN CONSIDERING YOUR PROPOSITION. AS YOU OUTLINE IT, THE FACTS ARE THESE--YOU WILL CONTRIBUTE THE IDEA FOR THE CAR, AND WE WILL PUT UP THE CASH..

ROUGHLY SPEAKING, IT'S A FIFTY-FIFTY COMBINATION, WITH US ASSUMING THE GREATER RISK. CASH THAT'S GONE CAN'T BE RECOVERED, BUT NOBODY CAN TAKE YOUR IDEAS AWAY FROM YOU. NATURALLY, WE'LL EXPECT TO BE COMPENSATED IN PROPORTION..

IF WE DECIDE TO GO INTO IT, I SHOULD SAY OFFHAND THAT OUR STOCKHOLDERS WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH SEVENTY-FIVE PER CENT OF THE STOCK, AND THE COMPANY TO OWN ALL THE PATENTS.

THAT, OF COURSE, IS ONLY TENTATIVE. WE'LL INVESTIGATE IT FURTHER, AND IF OUR FINDINGS PROVE FAVORABLE, WE'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU LATER AND GO OVER DETAILS. GOOD-DAY, SIR.



June 18, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

We Want Service.

By
FRANK BECK

DON'T ASK WHAT'S THE MATTER. YOU KNOW I JUST GOT THROUGH TRYING TO RAISE DOUGH IN THAT BANK FOR PUTTING OVER COMPRESSED AIR CARS. AFTER HEARING THEIR PROPOSITION, I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY BANKS ALWAYS HAVE SWELL BUILDINGS.

YOU LOOK SORE. DIDN'T THEY SEEM TO THINK WE HAD A GOOD THING? WHAT WAS THE HITCH?

THE HITCH WAS, THEY THOUGHT I HAD TOO GOOD A THING TO KEEP TO MYSELF. ALL THEY WANTED WAS FOR ME TO TURN OVER THE WHOLE WORKS TO THEM, AND TAKE A JOB RUNNING IT FOR THE EXPERIENCE I'D GET.

THEN THE PROPOSITION THE FIRST BANKER MADE WASN'T SO WORSE AFTER ALL, TOO BAD YOU BROKE WITH HIM. BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW. YOU BURNED YOUR BRIDGES BEHIND YOU.

AS SOON AS THEY SAW HOW INDEPENDENT I WAS, THEY TRIED THAT PSYCHOLOGY STUFF ON ME. THEY PAINTED THE PICTURE BLACK SO THEIR WHOLE-HOG-OR-NONE POLICY WOULD LOOK LIKE A CLEAN PROPOSITION.

WE'RE THROUGH WITH BANKERS. WE'LL WAIT TILL THE RIGHT ROLL COMES ALONG. WE ARE IN NO RUSH.

HAD AMY OVERHEARD A CERTAIN CONVERSATION IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN, SHE MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN SO SURE ABOUT PATIENCE BEING THE BEST POLICY FOR THEM TO PURSUE.

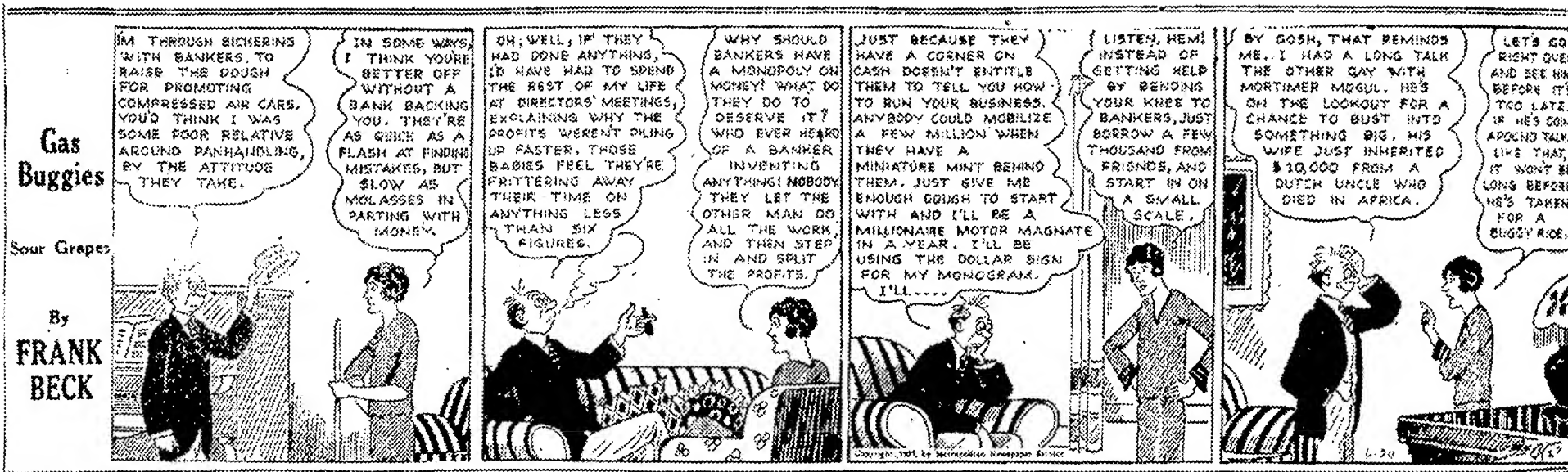
I AIN'T CRITICISING, MR. REYNARD, BUT WHEN YOU ASKED US TO PRODUCE A DIAGRAM OF OUR CONDENSED AIR CAP, I HAD BOSCO SIT UP ALL NIGHT DRAWING IT, SO YOU COULD RUSH IT OFF TO THE PATENT OFFICE.

BEEBEE'S RIGHT. YOU PROMISED US QUICK ACTION. A WHOLE WEEK HAS GONE BY AND NO PATENT YET.

I DID MY PART....I JAMMED YOUR APPLICATION THROUGH IN A HURRY. BUT I'M NOT RUNNING THE PATENT OFFICE, HOWEVER, I'LL WIRE THEM AGAIN.



June 20, 1927
Decatur Herald



June 21, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



June 22, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



June 23, 1927
Portsmouth Daily Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

Now What

BY FRANK BECK

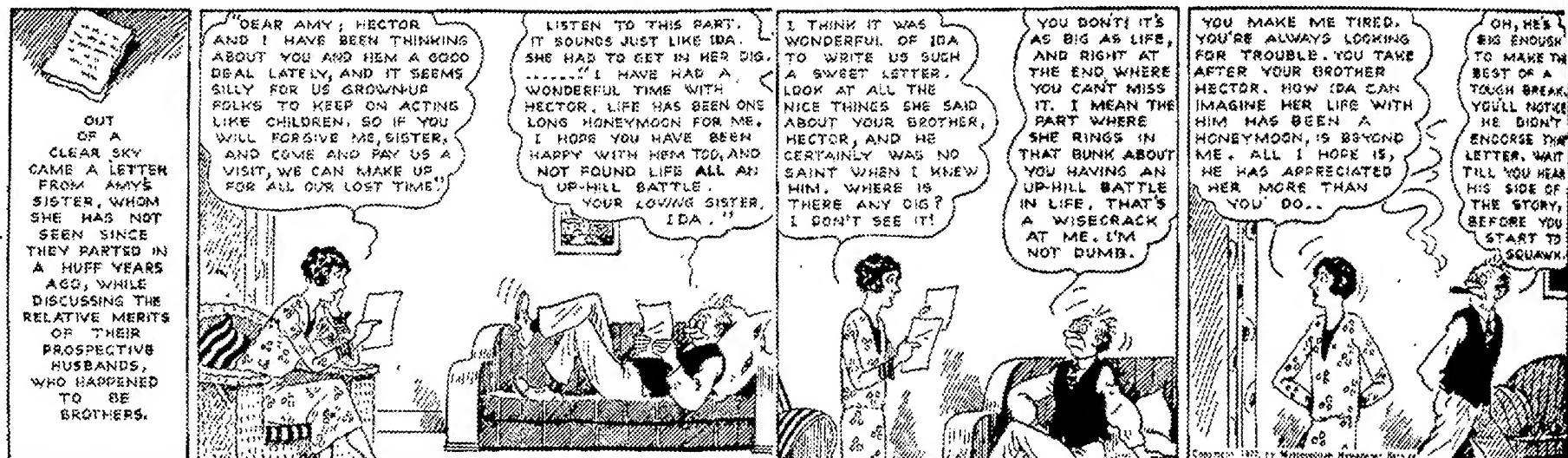


June 24, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

The Love Letter.

By
FRANK BECK

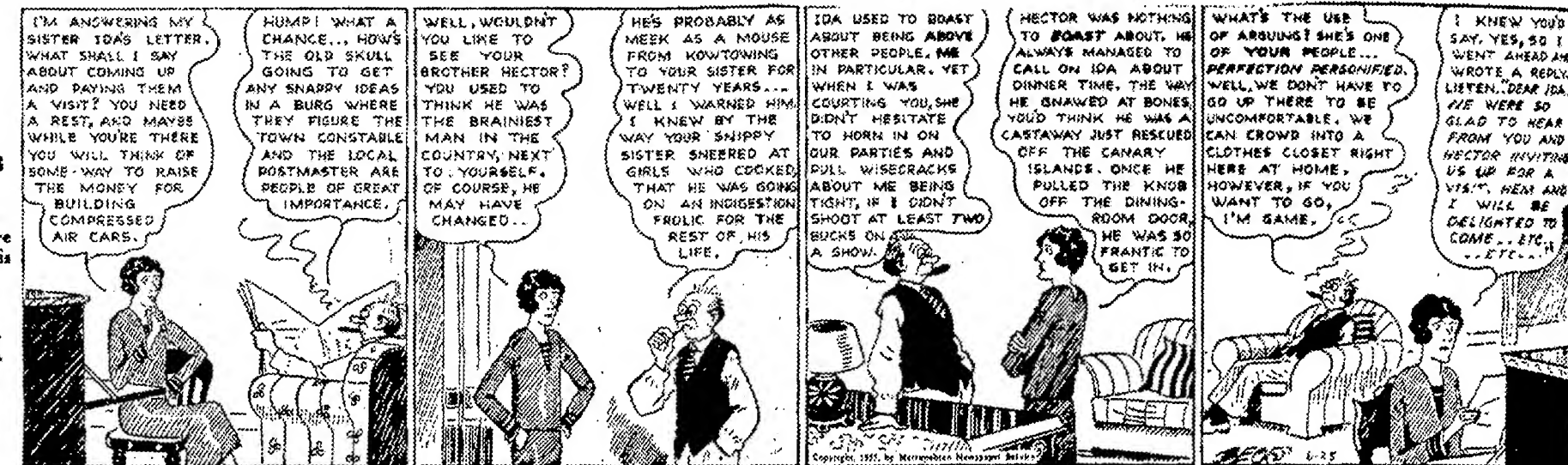


June 25, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

If Ida and Hector Were to Hear This

By
FRANK BECK

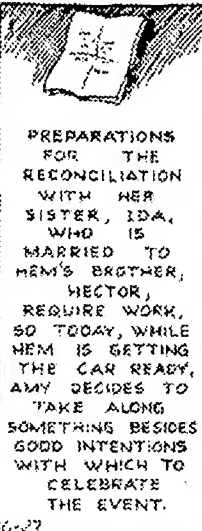


June 27, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Preparing Their Welcome.

By
FRANK BECK



PREPARATIONS FOR THE RECONCILIATION WITH HER SISTER, IDA, WHO IS MARRIED TO HEM'S BROTHER, HECTOR, REQUIRE WORK, SO TODAY, WHILE HEM IS GETTING THE CAR READY, AMY DECIDES TO TAKE ALONG SOMETHING BESIDES GOOD INTENTIONS WITH WHICH TO CELEBRATE THE EVENT.

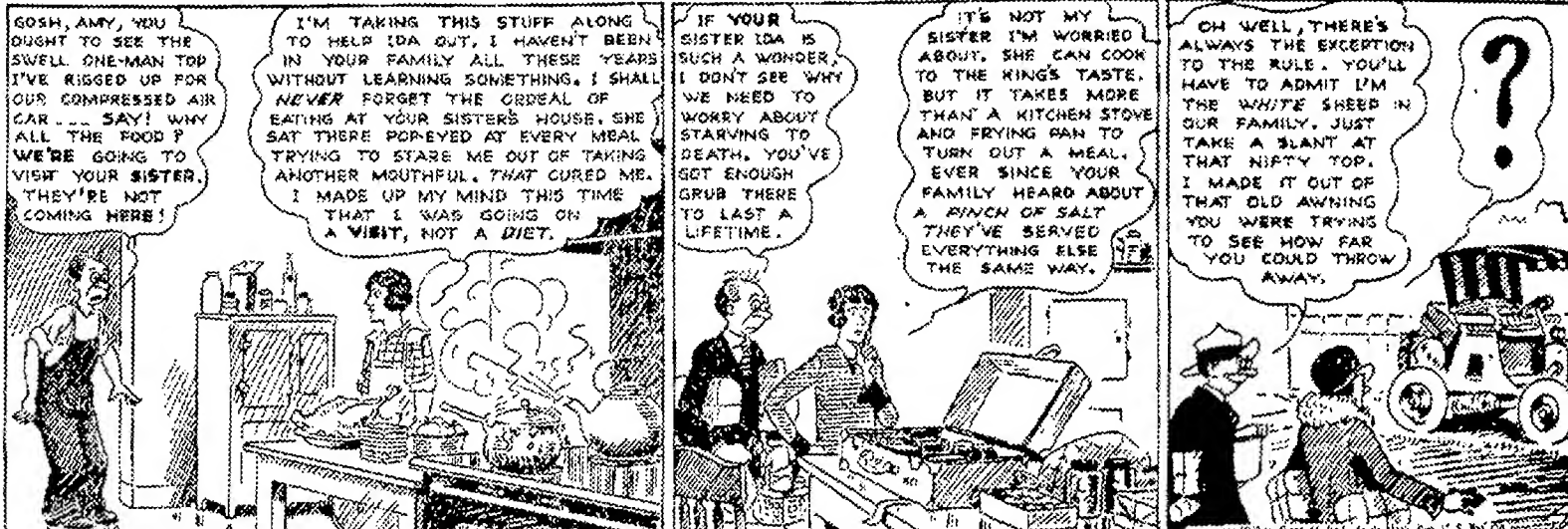
GOSH, AMY, YOU OUGHT TO SEE THE SWELL ONE-MAN TOP I'VE RIGGED UP FOR OUR COMPRESSED AIR CAR... SAY! WHY ALL THE FOOD? WE'RE GOING TO VISIT YOUR SISTER. THEY'RE NOT COMING HERE!

I'M TAKING THIS STUFF ALONG TO HELP IDA OUT, I HAVEN'T BEEN IN YOUR FAMILY ALL THESE YEARS WITHOUT LEARNING SOMETHING. I SHALL NEVER FORGET THE ORDEAL OF EATING AT YOUR SISTER'S HOUSE, SHE SAT THERE POPEYED AT EVERY MEAL TRYING TO STARE ME OUT OF TAKING ANOTHER MOUTHFUL. THAT CURED ME. I MADE UP MY MIND THIS TIME THAT I WAS GOING ON A VISIT, NOT A DIET.

IF YOUR SISTER IDA IS SUCH A WONDER, I DON'T SEE WHY WE NEED TO WORRY ABOUT STARVING TO DEATH. YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH GRUB THERE TO LAST A LIFETIME.

IT'S NOT MY SISTER I'M WORRIED ABOUT. SHE CAN COOK TO THE KING'S TASTE. BUT IT TAKES MORE THAN A KITCHEN STOVE AND FRYING PAN TO TURN OUT A MEAL. EVER SINCE YOUR FAMILY HEARD ABOUT A PINCH OF SALT THEY'VE SERVED EVERYTHING ELSE THE SAME WAY.

OH WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS THE EXCEPTION TO THE RULE. YOU'LL HAVE TO ADMIT I'M THE WHITE SHEEP IN OUR FAMILY. JUST TAKE A SLANT AT THAT NIFTY TOP. I MADE IT OUT OF THAT OLD AWNING YOU WERE TRYING TO SEE HOW FAR YOU COULD THROW AWAY.




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June 28, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Pleasant Prospects

By
FRANK BECK



I CAN'T HELP WONDERING WHAT'S AHEAD OF US. IT'S BEEN SO MANY YEARS SINCE I'VE SEEN MY SISTER IDA. I HOPE SHE, LIKE THE REST OF US, HAS CHANGED WITH THE PASSING YEARS.

I HOPE SO. IF SHE STILL THROWS MONEY AWAY LIKE OTHER MEMBERS OF HER FAMILY, I KNOW SHE'S KEPT MY BROTHER HUMMING TO SCRABE ENOUGH TOGETHER TO MAKE BOTH ENDS MEET. POOR HECTOR, I'LL BET ALL THIS GRUB WE'RE BRINGING UP WILL BE A LIFE-SAVER TO HIM.

IDA WON'T THINK YOU MADE SUCH A BAD BARSAIN WHEN SHE SPOTS US ROLLING UP IN OUR OWN BUS. I'LL BET SHE'S STANDING ON THE CORNER WATCHING THE TROLLEYS, AND WONDERING WHY WE DON'T GET OFF EVERY TIME ONE STOPS.

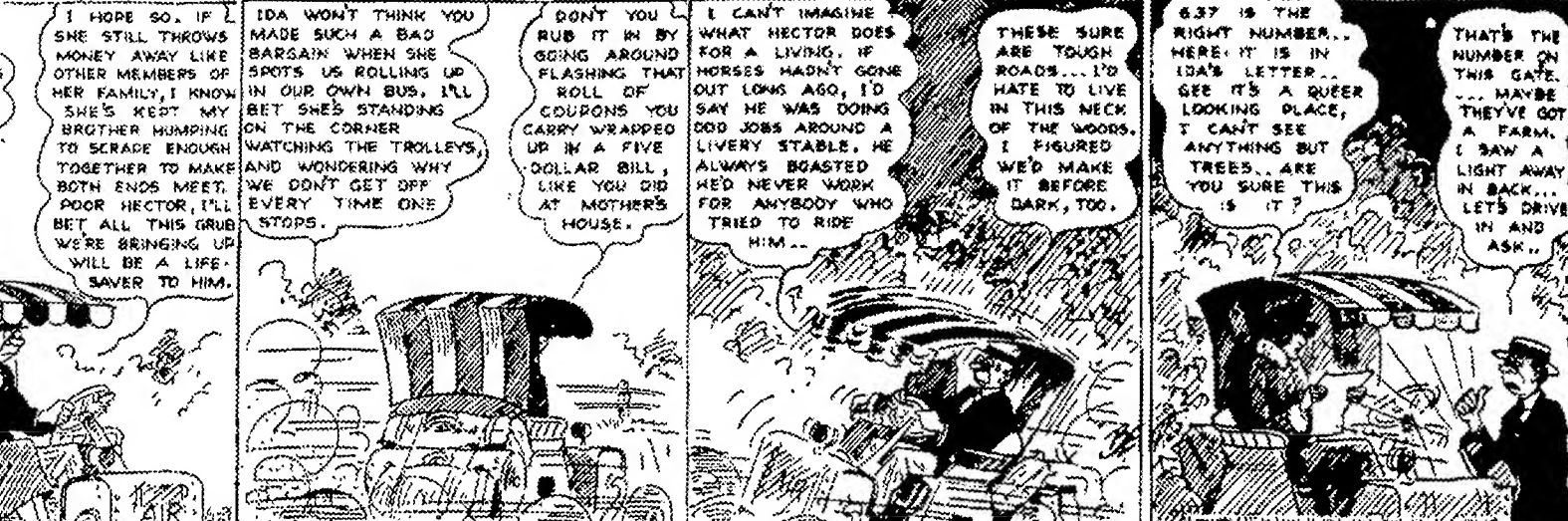
DON'T YOU RUB IT IN BY GOING AROUND FLASHING THAT ROLL OF COUPONS YOU CARRY WRAPPED UP IN A FIVE DOLLAR BILL, LIKE YOU DID AT MOTHER'S HOUSE.

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT HECTOR DOES FOR A LIVING. IF HORSES HADN'T GONE OUT LONG AGO, I'D SAY HE WAS DOING ODD JOBS AROUND A LIVERY STABLE. HE ALWAYS BOASTED HE'D NEVER WORK FOR ANYBODY WHO TRIED TO RIDE HIM.

THESE SURE ARE TOUGH ROADS... I'D HATE TO LIVE IN THIS NECK OF THE WOODS. I FIGURED WE'D MAKE IT BEFORE DARK, TOO.

6.37 IS THE RIGHT NUMBER... HERE, IT IS IN IDA'S LETTER... SEE IT'S A QUEER LOOKING PLACE, I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING BUT TREES... ARE YOU SURE THIS IS IT?

THAT'S THE NUMBER ON THIS GATE... MAYBE THEY'VE GOT A FARM. I SAW A LIGHT AWAY IN BACK... LET'S DRIVE IN AND ASK.



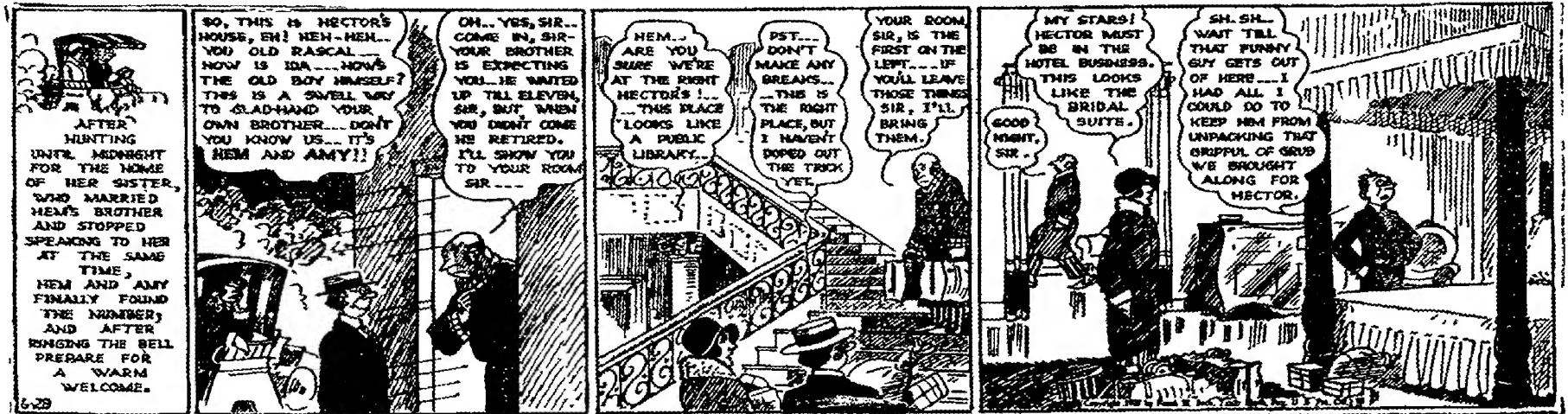
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June 29, 1927

Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



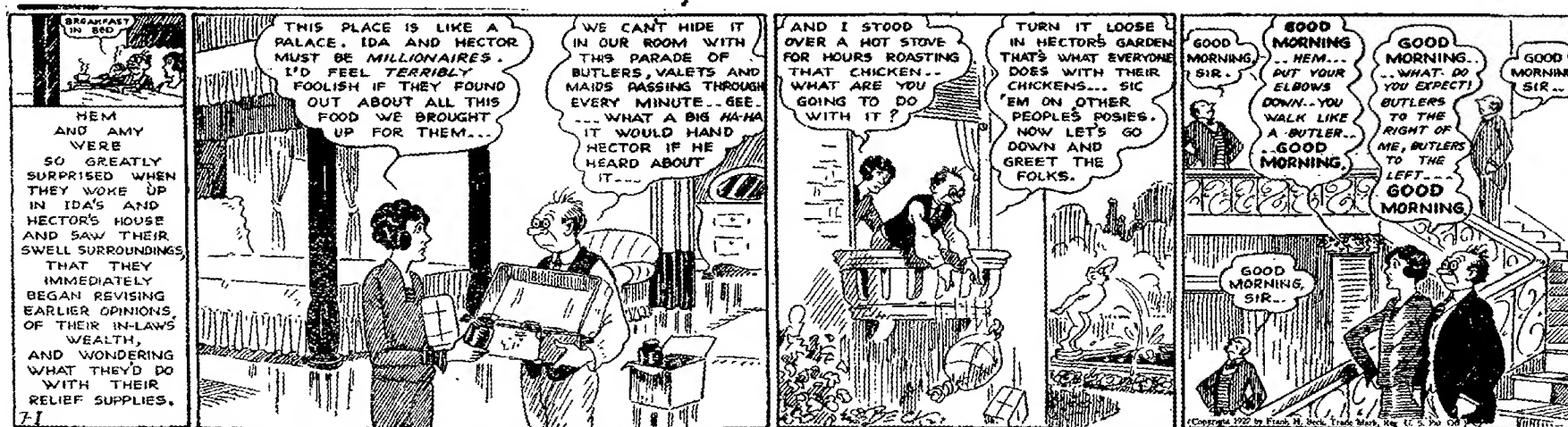
June 30, 1927

Decatur Herald



July 1, 1927
Warren Tribune
GAS BUGGIES

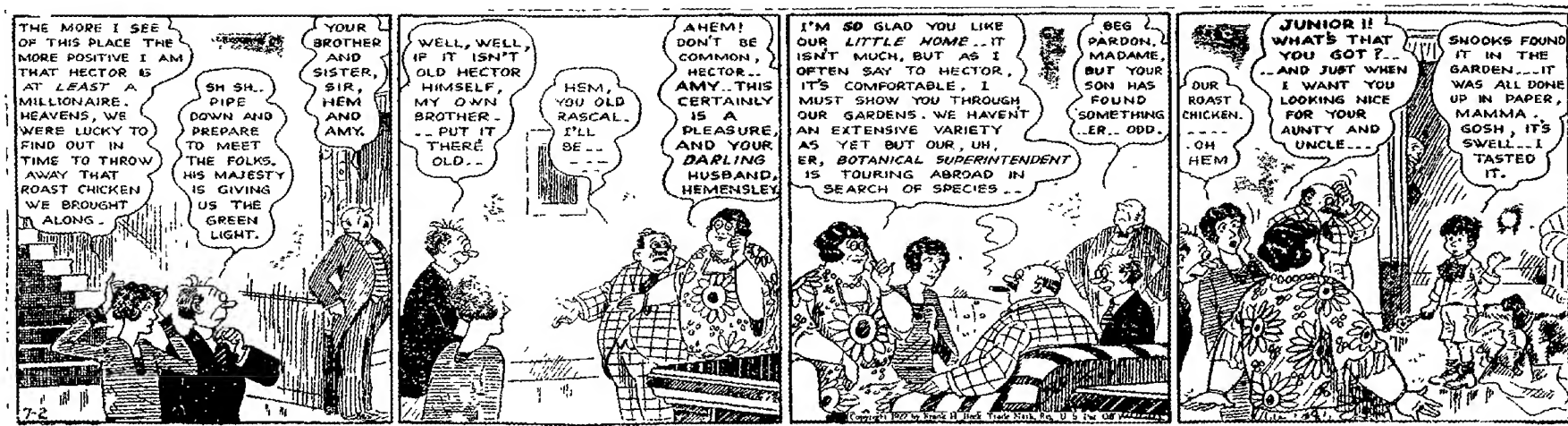
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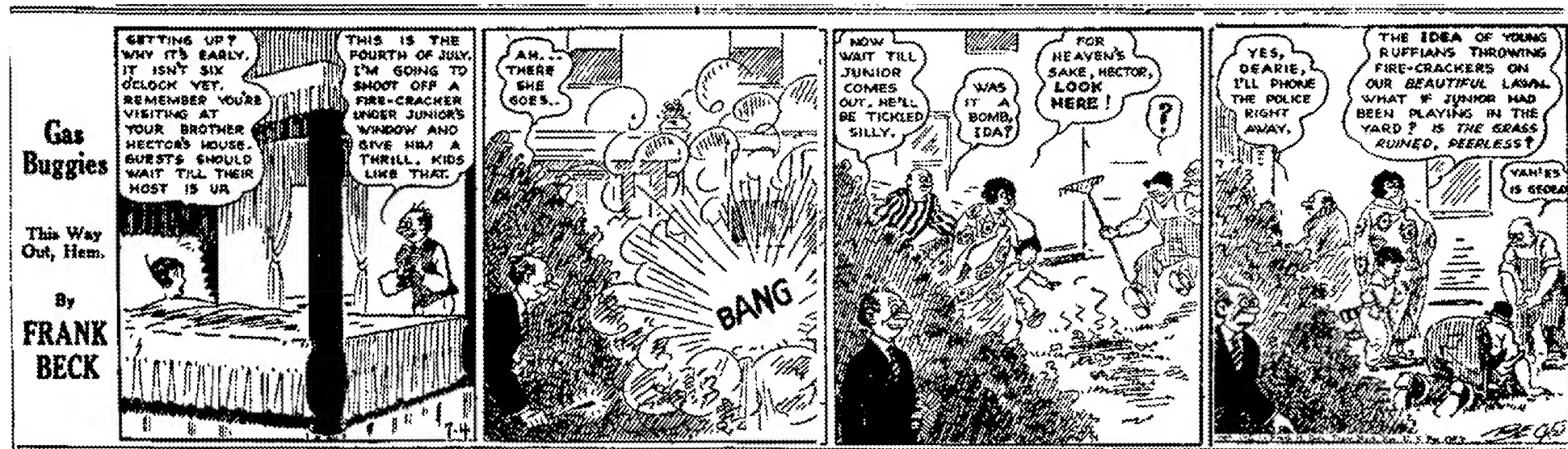
July 2, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

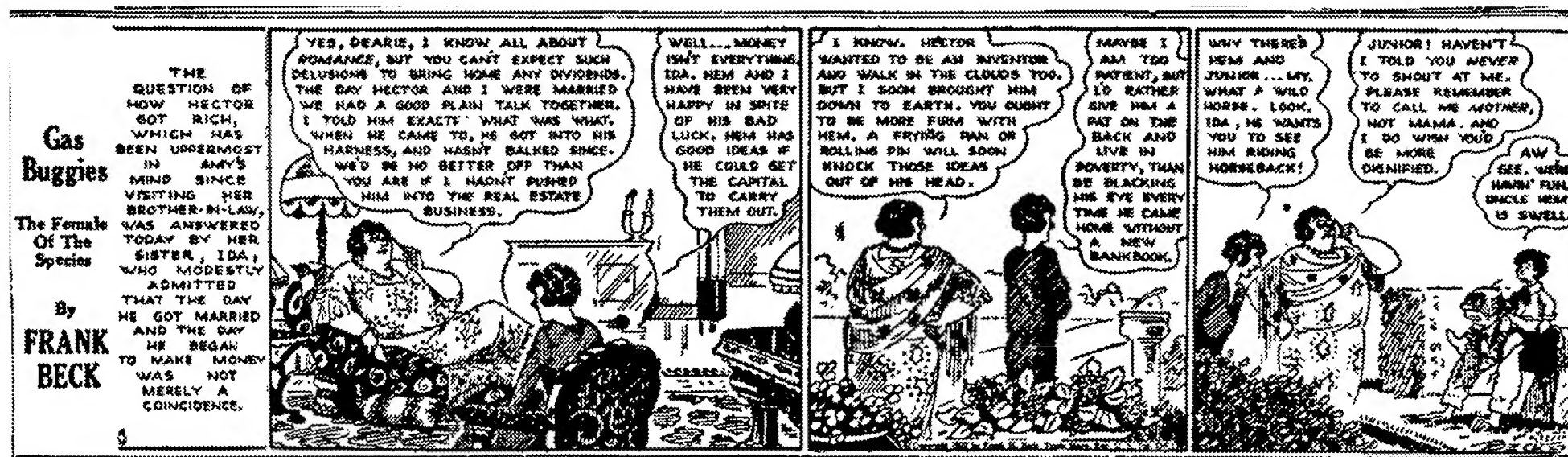
By Frank Beck



July 4, 1927
Decatur Herald



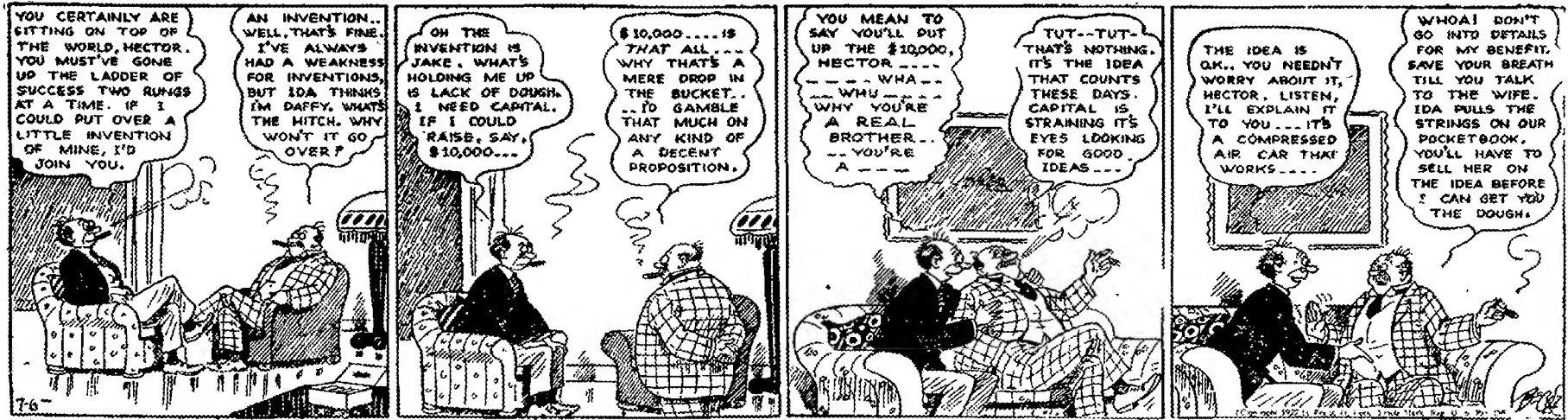
July 5, 1927
Decatur Herald



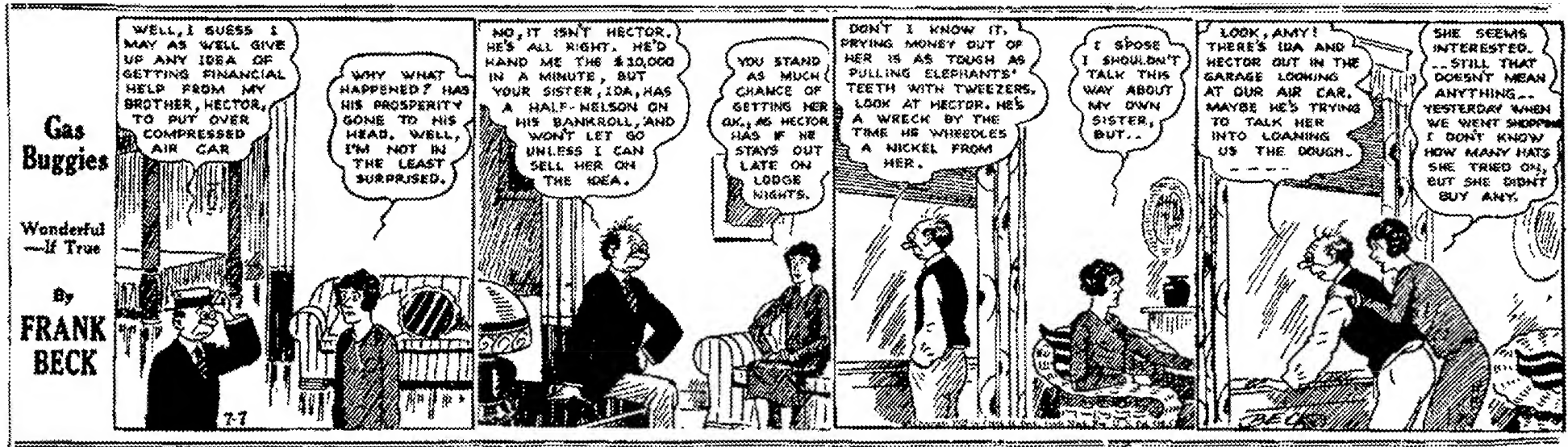
July 6, 1927
Warren Tribune

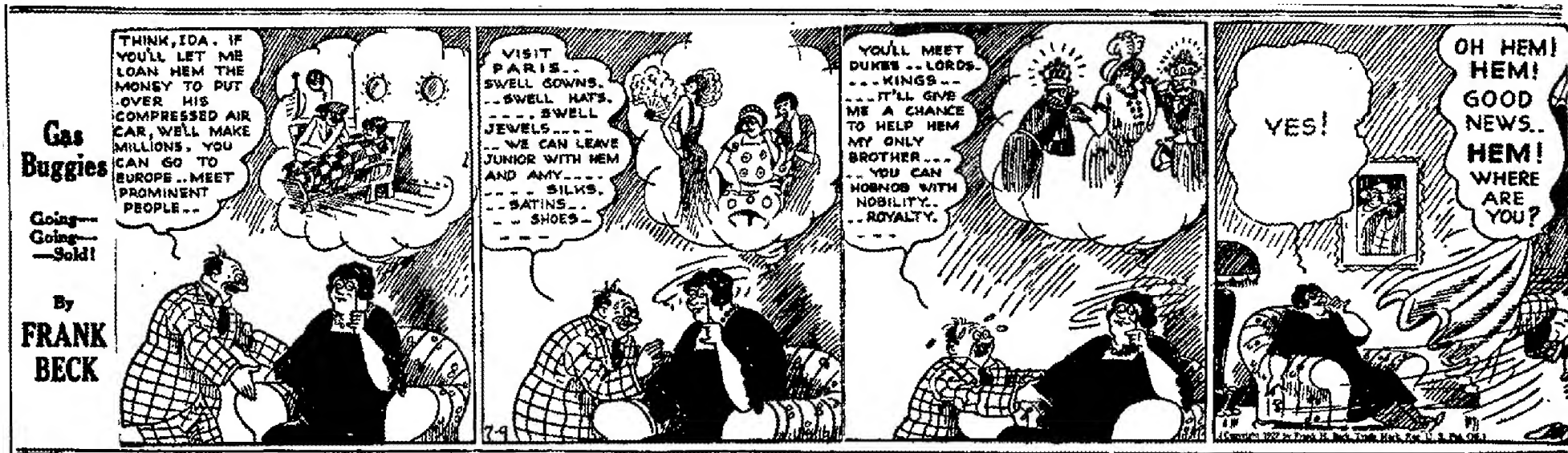
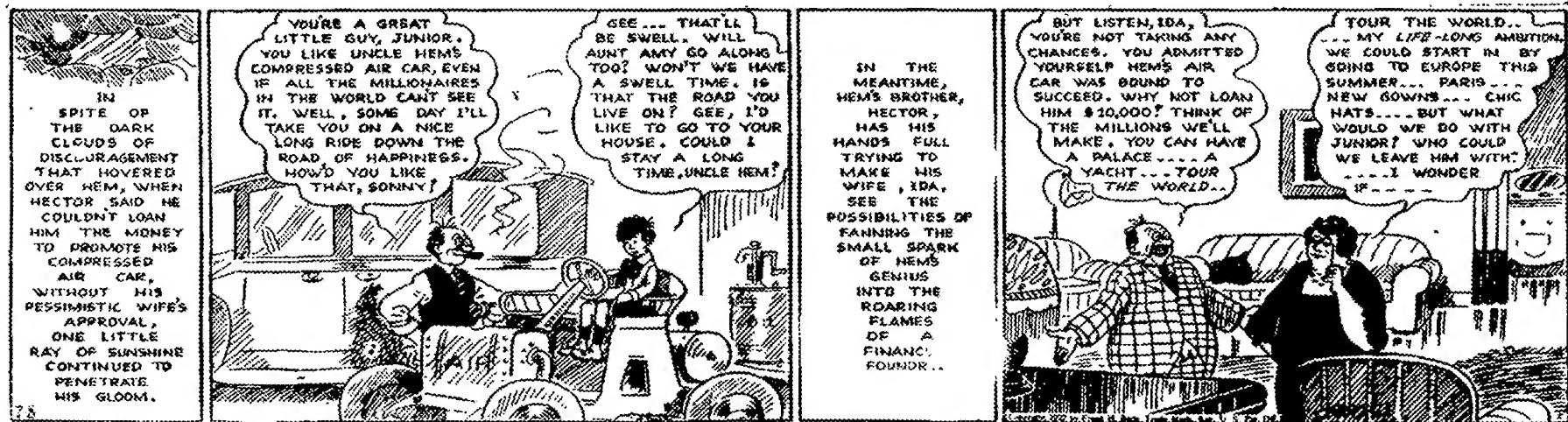
GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



July 7, 1927
Decatur Herald





July 11, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Why Put Off Till Tomorrow—?

By **FRANK BECK**

7-11

HEM'S BROTHER, HECTOR, KILLED TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE WHEN HE PERSUADED HIS WIFE, IDA, TO LET HIM LOAN HIM \$10,000 FOR PROMOTING HIS COMPRESSED AIR CAR, IN RETURN FOR TAKING CARE OF THEIR SON, JUNIOR, WHILE THEY TOURED EUROPE.

YOU COULD'VE KNOCKED ME OVER WITH A FEATHER, AMY, WHEN HECTOR HANDED ME THIS \$10,000 CHECK... THAT'S REAL DOUGH TOO. IT ISN'T DRAWN ON JUNIOR'S BANK, BUT IMAGINE YOUR SISTER, IDA, CONSENTING TO IT. SHE'LL BE GOING AROUND TALKING TO HERSELF NEXT.

\$10,000... WELL, THAT STRAIGHTENS YOU OUT SO YOU CAN START PRODUCING COMPRESSED AIR CARS. THE NEXT THING IS TO GET THAT CHECK CASHED BEFORE IDA COMES TO, AND REALIZES WHAT SHE'S DONE.

HERE... GRAB THIS BAG AND PACK YOUR DUDS. I'LL THROW MY STUFF IN THIS ONE AND THEN GET THE CAR READY. IF SHE CHANGES HER MIND WE WON'T BE AROUND TO HEAR ABOUT IT...

WHAT ABOUT JUNIOR? WE'RE GOING TO TAKE HIM BACK WITH US... HEAVENS... WE CAN'T JUST GRAB HIM AND RUN, LIKE A COUPLE OF KIDNAPPERS!

GEE... I HOPE IDA DOESN'T CHANGE HER MIND... WHY WAIT TILL TOMORROW. ALL SET... JUNIOR'S... THEY MIGHT DECIDE NOT TO GO ABROAD...

FOR PITY'S SAKE, SIT DOWN... READ... ANYTHING BUT RUNNING AROUND IN CIRCLES... IT DRIVES ME CUCKOO!

July 12, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By **Frank Beck**

7-12

WHEN ARE WE GOING TO START FOR YOUR HOUSE, UNCLE HEM? ME AND SHOOKS ARE READY... GEE, WON'T IT BE SWELL... CAN I STEER PART OF THE TIME?

LET JUNIOR TAKE HIS PUP. IT'LL BREAK HIS HEART IF YOU DON'T.

WELL... WE'LL BE PACKED IN LIKE SARDINES, BUT I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE WILLING.

HONEST, UNCLE HEM... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE ME IN THE HOUSE AND THEN LEAVE ME!... PROMISE?

CROSS MY HEART, SONNY. GOSH! DON'T YOU WANT TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER? YOU WON'T SEE THEM FOR A LONG TIME.

NOW REMEMBER, JUNIOR, BE A GOOD BOY AND BEHAVE WHILE YOU'RE LIVING AT UNCLE HEM'S HOUSE. DON'T FORGET TO SAY THANK YOU, AND YES SIR, AND NO SIR...

WAIT FOR ME NOW, UNCLE HEM!

WELL, THEY'RE GONE, HECTOR. BUT JUST THINK. IN A COUPLE OF DAYS WE'LL BE OFF TOO... AND THEN PARIS. I'M SO THRILLED... OH DEAR... DIDN'T JUNIOR TAKE HIS PARTING WELL...

TOO DARNED WELL, IF YOU ASK ME... I'LL SURE MISS HIM...

July 13, 1927
Decatur Herald

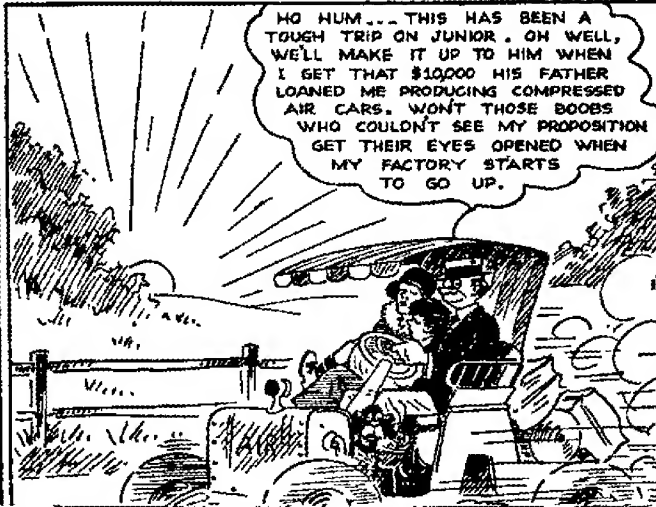
Gas Buggies

Man's
Best
Friend.

By
**FRANK
BECK**

IN THE WEE HOURS OF MORNING HEM ARRIVED HOME WITH HIS COMPRESSED AIR CAR CARAMAN AND ITS PRECIOUS CARGO, WORN AND WEARY, BUT WREATHED IN SMILES AS HE THOUGHT OF HIS TROUBLES AS AT LAST BEING OVER.

7-13



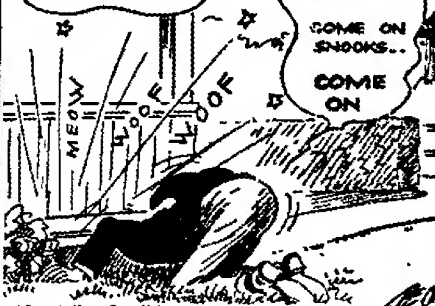
HO HUM... THIS HAS BEEN A TOUGH TRIP ON JUNIOR. OH WELL, WE'LL MAKE IT UP TO HIM WHEN I GET THAT \$10,000 HIS FATHER LOANED ME PRODUCING COMPRESSED AIR CARS. WON'T THOSE BOOBS WHO COULDN'T SEE MY PROPOSITION GET THEIR EYES OPENED WHEN MY FACTORY STARTS TO GO UP.

HOME AT LAST... OH BOY, WON'T THAT BED FEEL GOOD... YOU GO AHEAD WITH SNOOKS, AMY, AND UNLOCK THE DOOR. I'LL BRING JUNIOR AND THE REST OF THE GRIPS.

QUICK, HEM, GRAB SNOOKS. THE LEASH BROKE... HE'S AFTER BEEBE'S CAT... HE'S CHASED IT UNDER THEIR HOUSE... OH WHAT A RUMPUS.

HEY DOWN THERE... WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA OF WAKING PEOPLE UP BEFORE DAYBREAK! BEAT IT, IF YOU DON'T WANT A BLAST OUT OF THIS SHOTGUN...

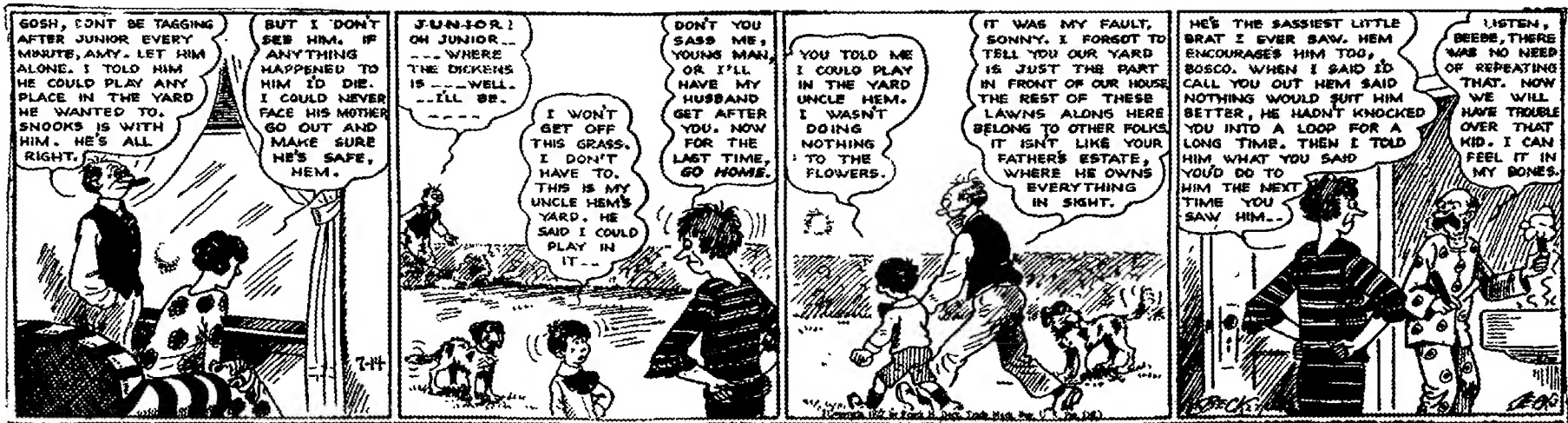
HERE SNOOKS... HERE SNOOKS... COME ON SNOOKS... COME ON



July 14, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



GOSH, DON'T BE TAGGING AFTER JUNIOR EVERY MORNING, AMY. LET HIM ALONE. I TOLD HIM HE COULD PLAY ANY PLACE IN THE YARD HE WANTED TO. SNOOKS IS WITH HIM. HE'S ALL RIGHT.

BUT I DON'T SEE HIM. IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO HIM I'D DIE. I COULD NEVER FACE HIS MOTHER GO OUT AND MAKE SURE HE'S SAFE, HEM.

JUNIOR! OH JUNIOR... WHERE THE DICKENS IS... WELL... I'LL BE.

I WON'T GET OFF THIS GRASS. I DON'T HAVE TO. THIS IS MY UNCLE HEM'S YARD. HE SAID I COULD PLAY IN IT.

DON'T YOU SASS ME, YOUNG MAN, OR I'LL HAVE MY HUSBAND GET AFTER YOU. NOW FOR THE LAST TIME, GO HOME.

YOU TOLD ME I COULD PLAY IN THE YARD UNCLE HEM. I WASN'T DOING NOTHING TO THE FLOWERS.

IT WAS MY FAULT, SONNY. I FORGOT TO TELL YOU OUR YARD IS JUST THE PART IN FRONT OF OUR HOUSE. THE REST OF THESE LAWNS ALONG HERE BELONG TO OTHER FOLKS. IT ISN'T LIKE YOUR FATHER'S ESTATE, WHERE HE OWNS EVERYTHING IN SIGHT.

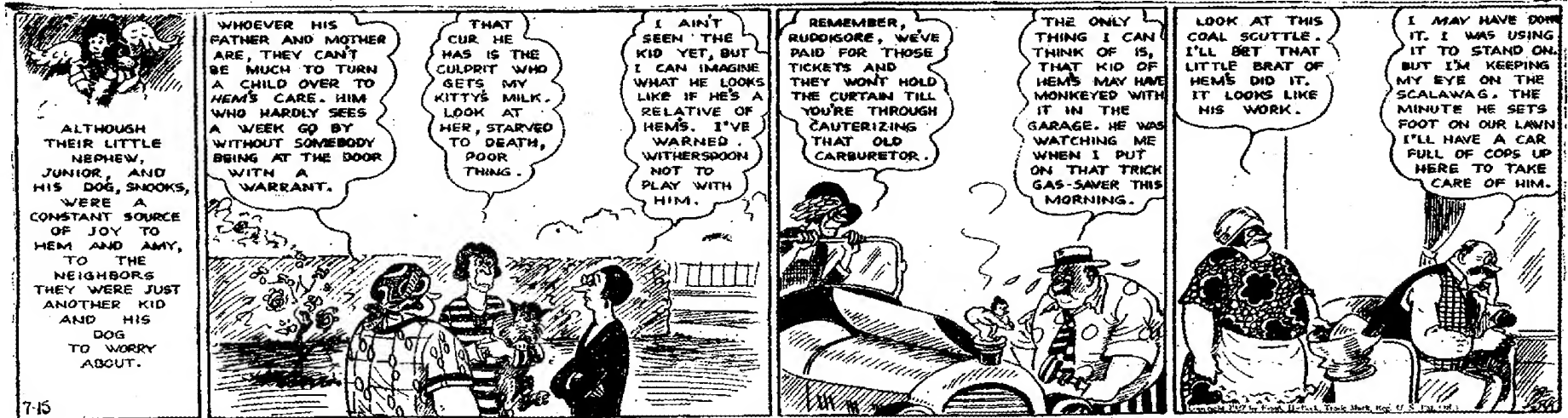
HE'S THE SASSIEST LITTLE BRAT I EVER SAW. HEM ENCOURAGES HIM TOO, BOSCO. WHEN I SAID I'D CALL YOU OUT HEM SAID NOTHING WOULD SUIT HIM BETTER, HE HADN'T KNOWN YOU INTO A LOOP FOR A LONG TIME. THEN I TOLD HIM WHAT YOU SAID YOU'D DO TO HIM THE NEXT TIME YOU SAW HIM.

LISTEN, BEEBE, THERE WAS NO NEED OF REPEATING THAT. NOW WE WILL HAVE TROUBLE OVER THAT KID. I CAN FEEL IT IN MY BONES.

July 15, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

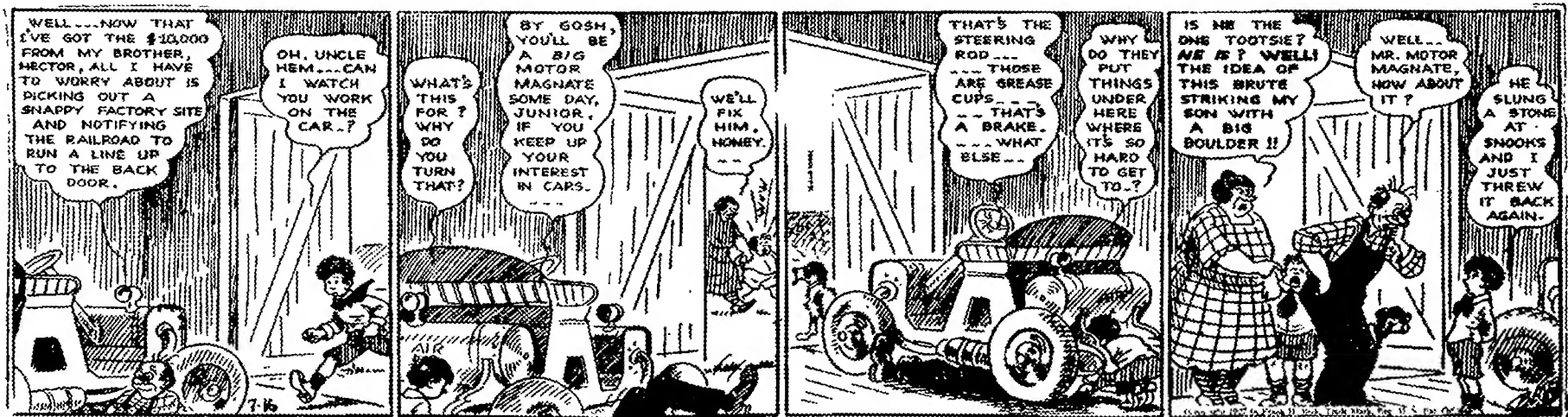
By Frank Beck



July 16, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



July 18, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

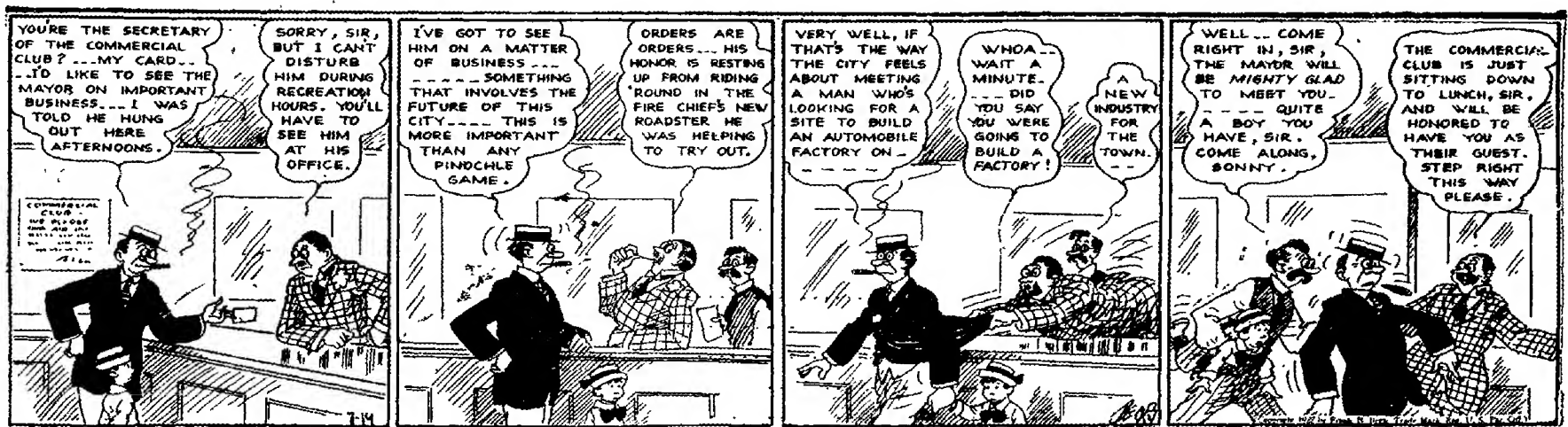
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July 19, 1927
Warren Tribune

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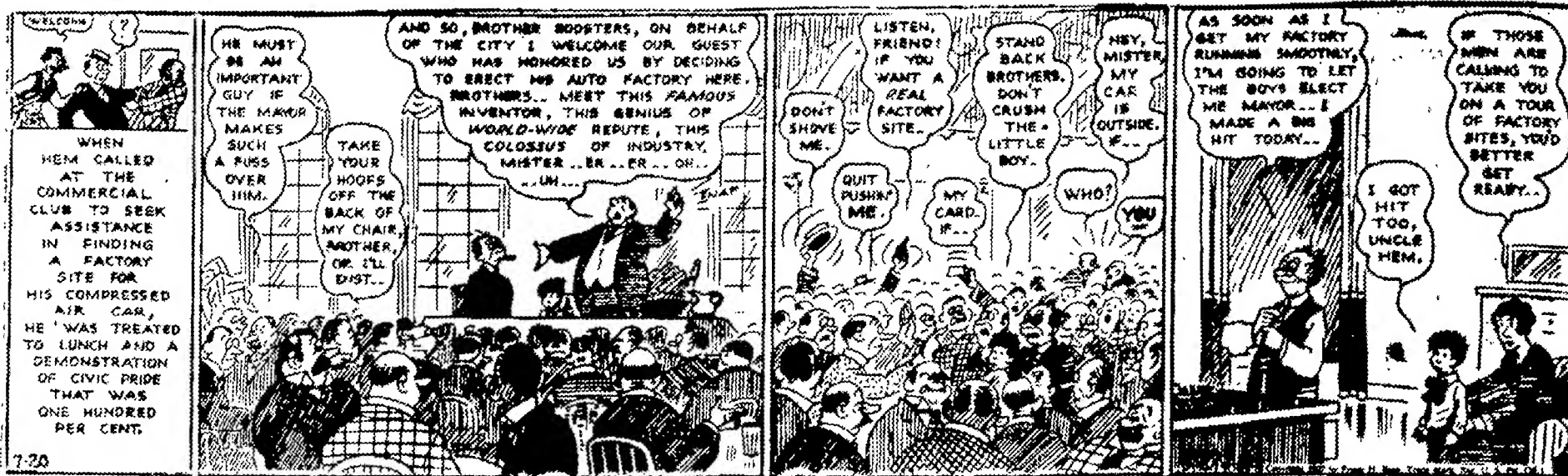
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July 20, 1927

Kingston Daily Freeman

GAS BUGGIES—A La Lindbergh

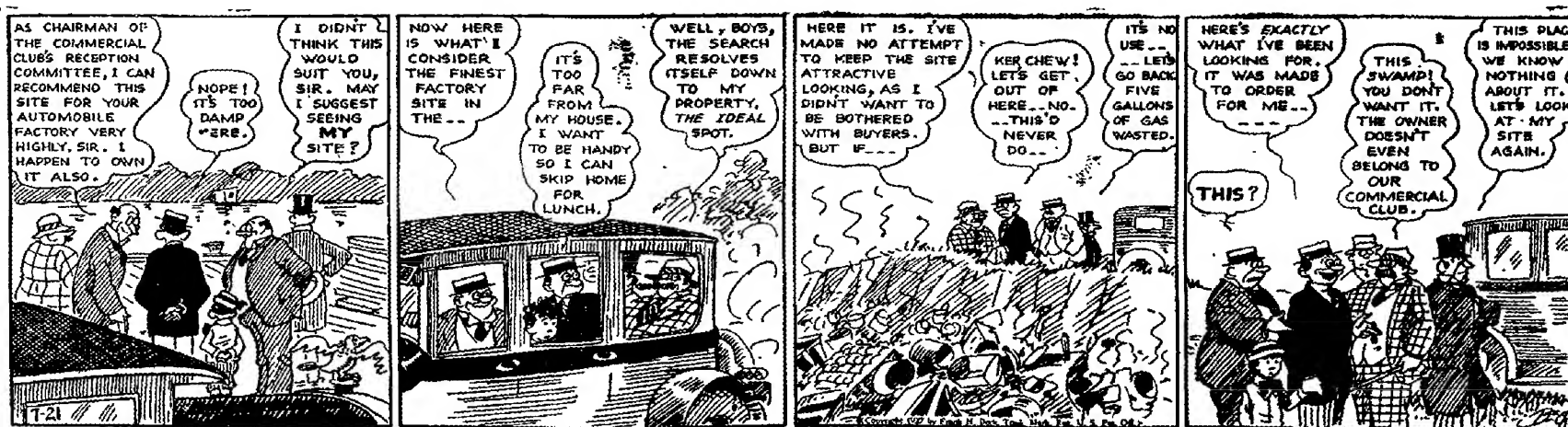


July 21, 1927

Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

Bq Frank Beck



July 22, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

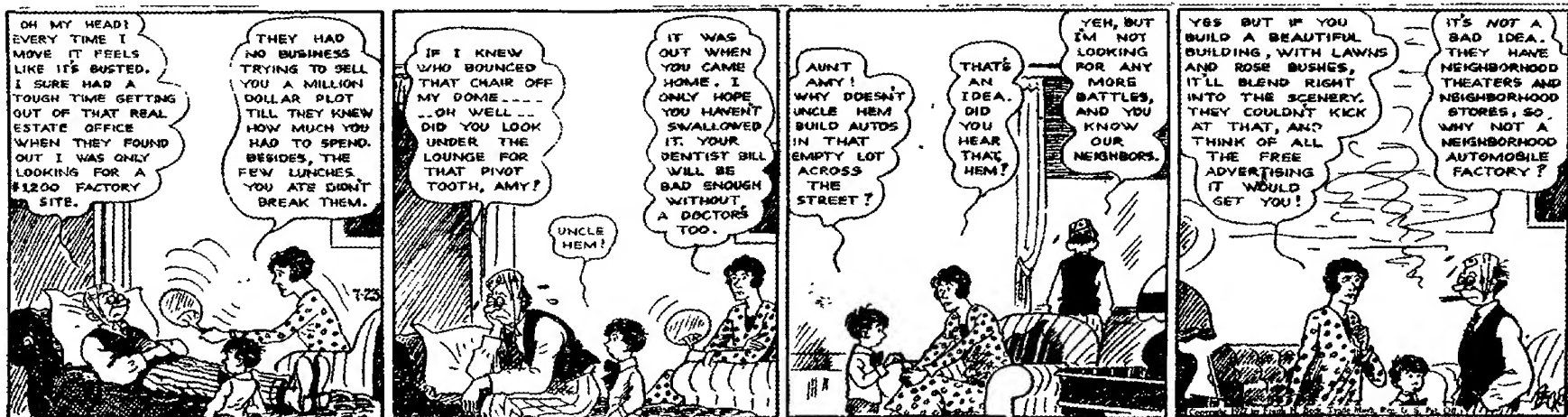
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July 23, 1927
Warren Tribune

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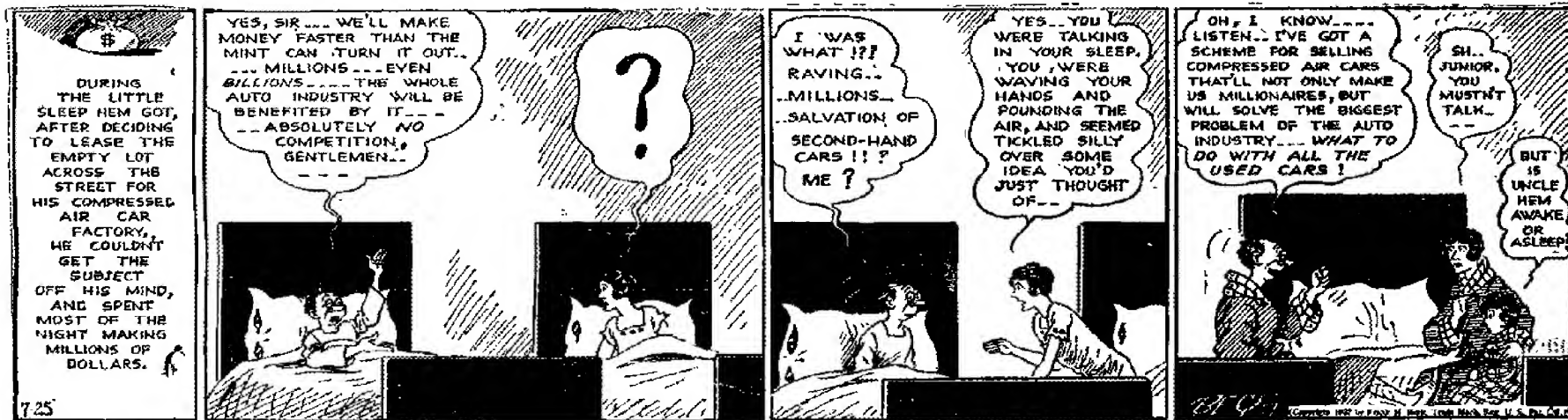


July 25, 1927

The Warren Tribune, p. 8

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By Frank Beck

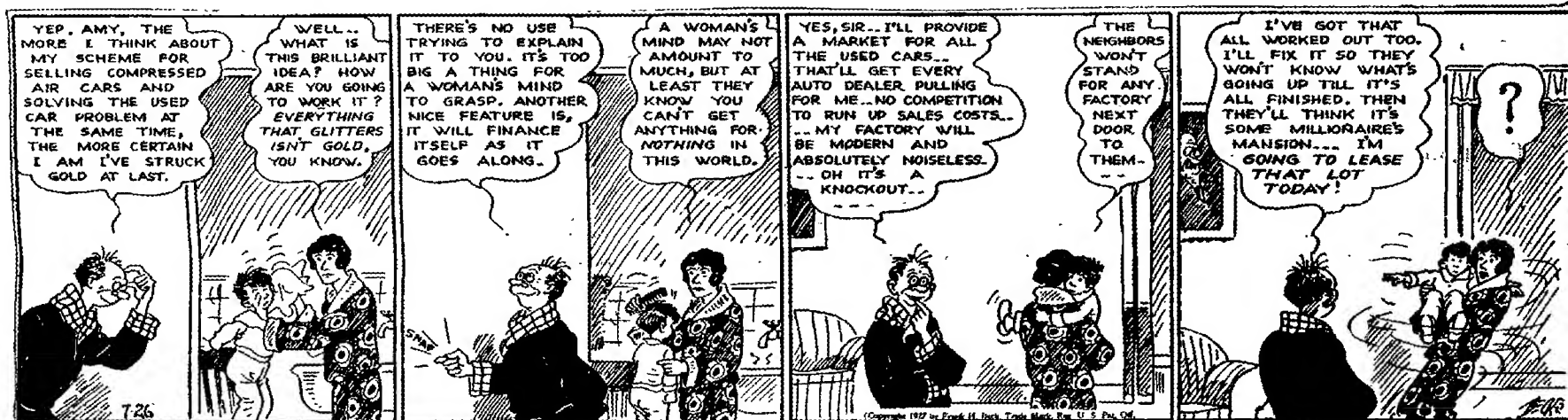


July 26, 1927

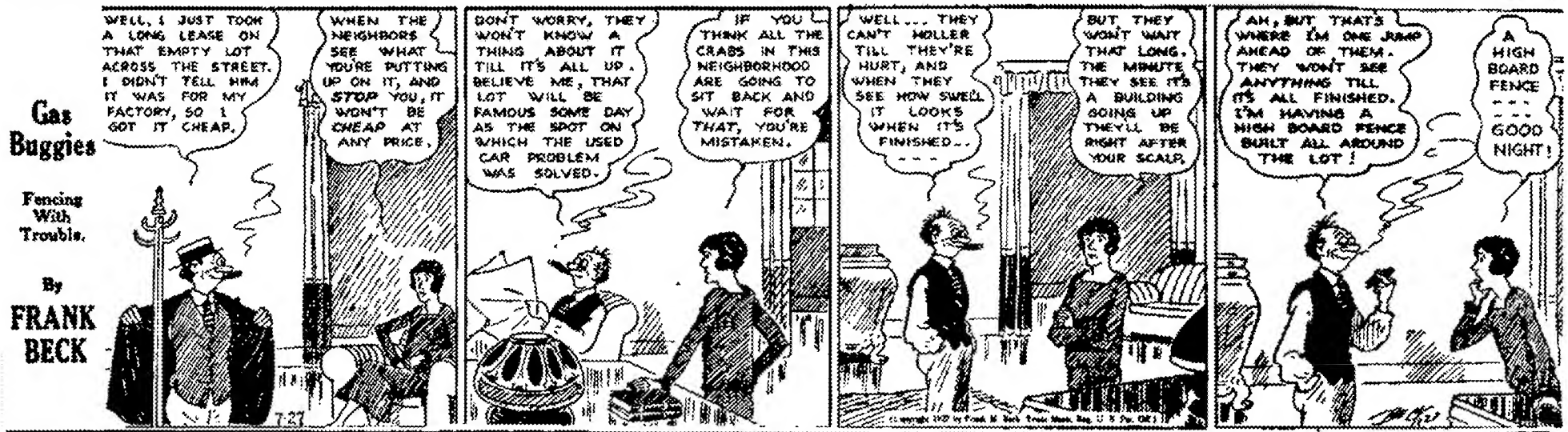
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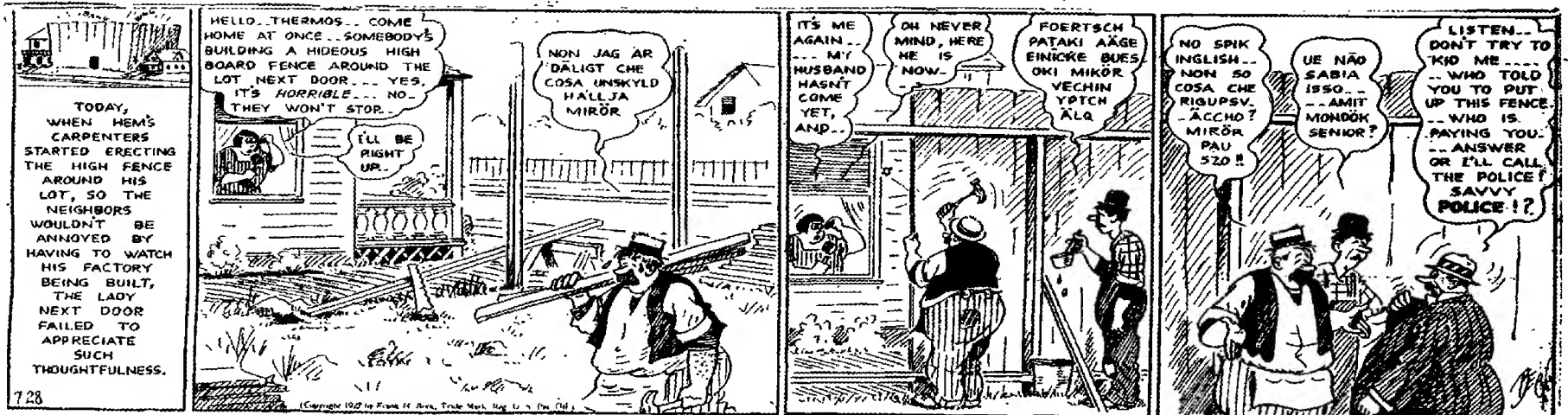
July 27, 1927
Decatur Herald



July 28, 1927
Warren Tribune

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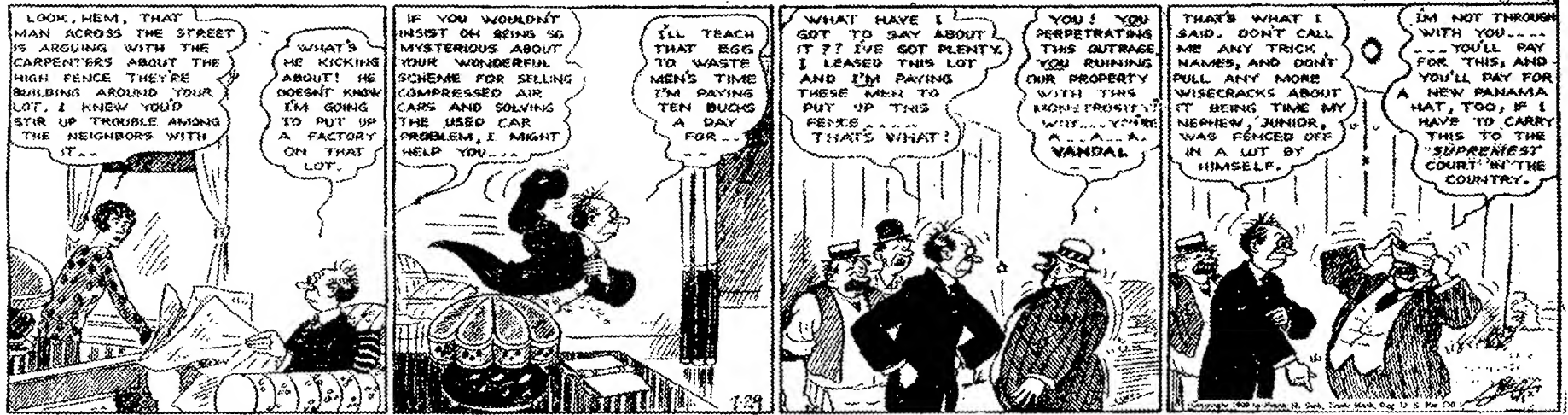
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July 29, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank E



July 30, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

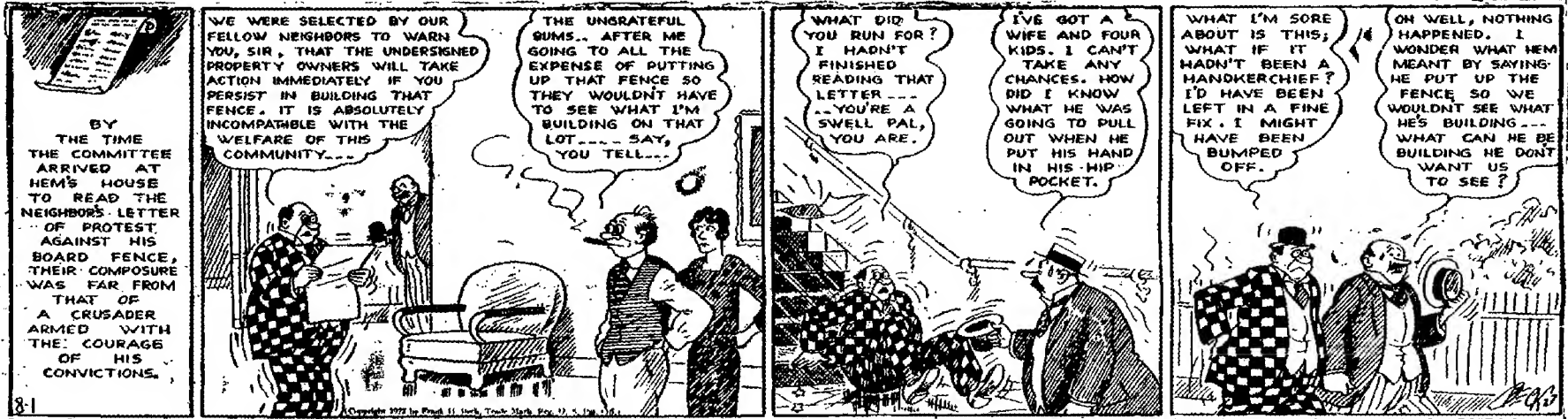
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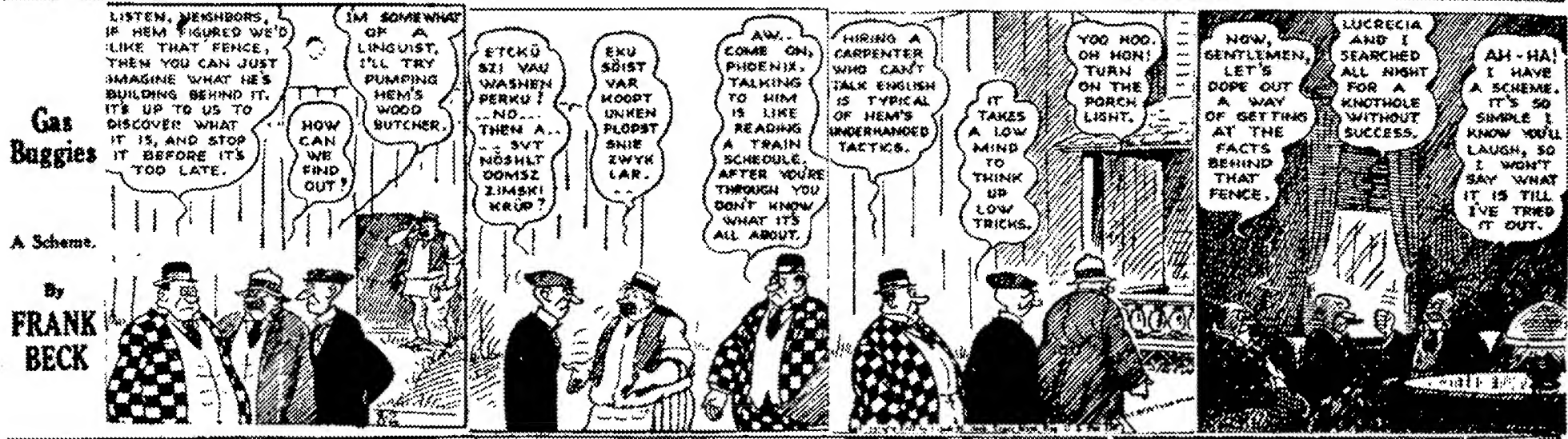
August 1, 1927
Warren Tribune

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By Frank Beck

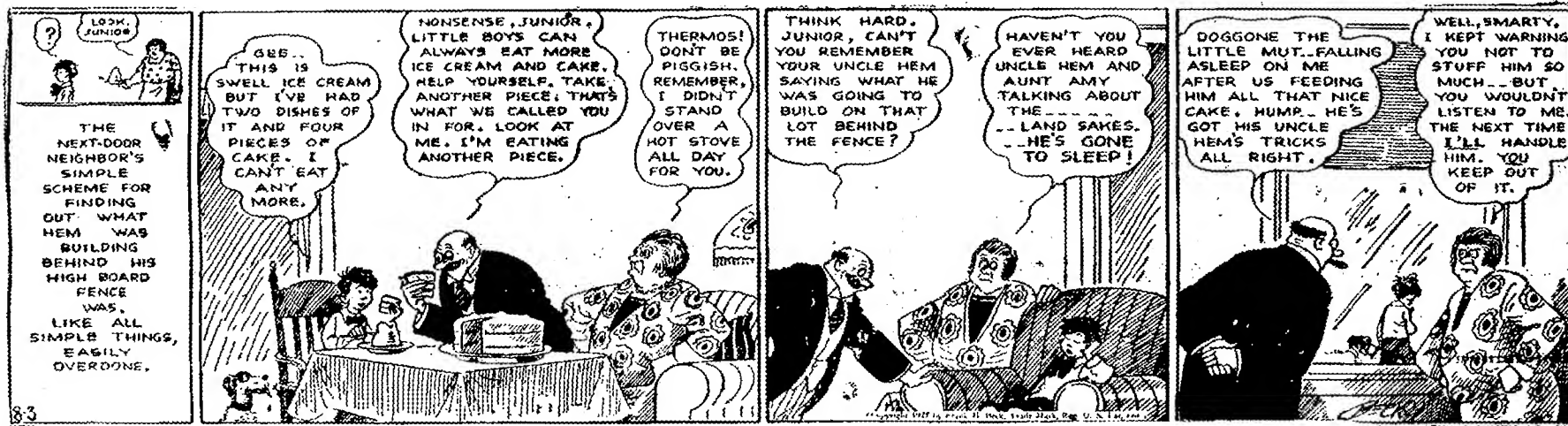


August 2, 1927
Decatur Herald



August 3, 1927
Warren Tribune
GAS BUGGIES

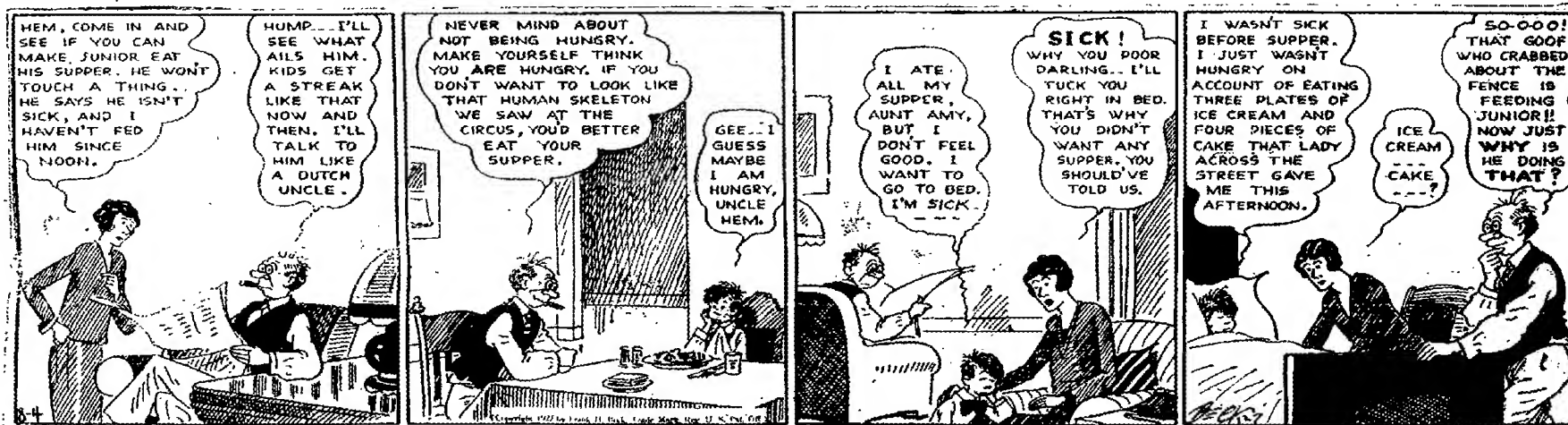
By Frank Beck



August 4, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



August 5, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

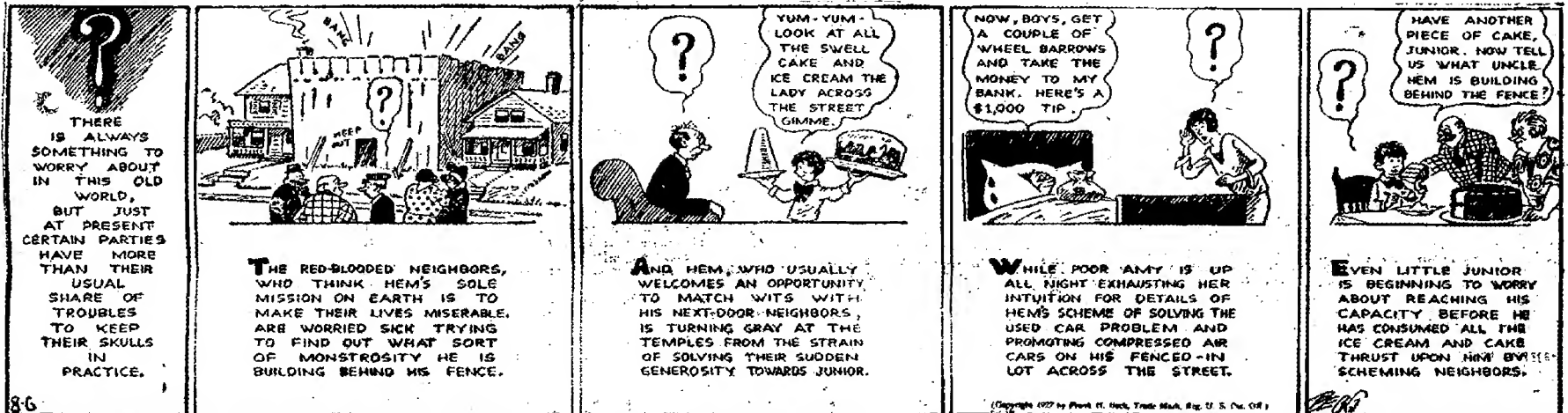
By Frank Beck



August 6, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



August 8, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



August 9, 1927
Decatur Herald



August 10, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

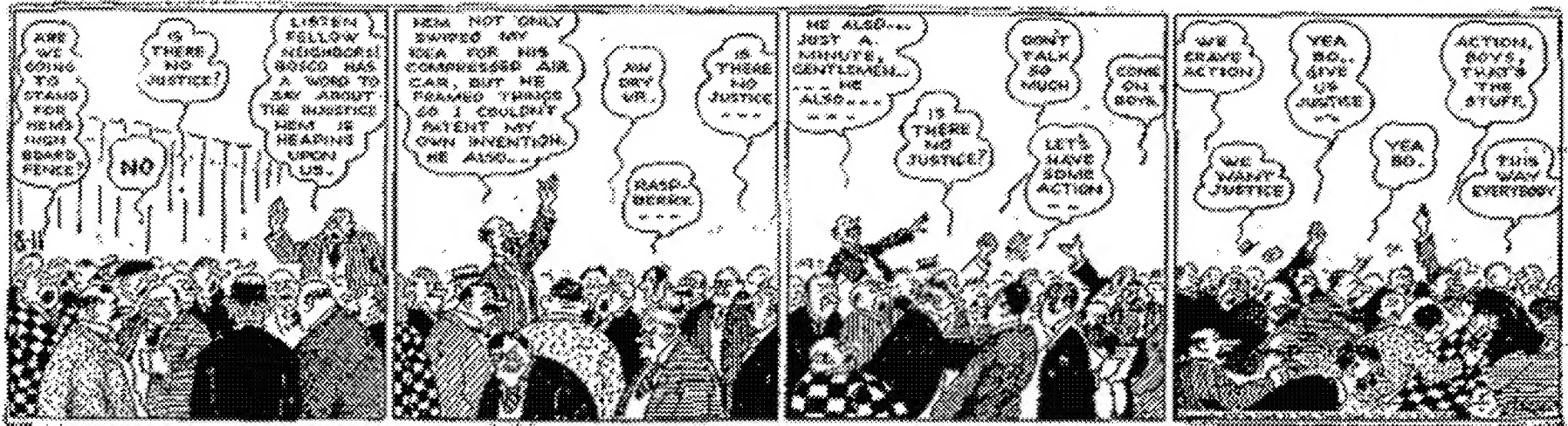
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August 11, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

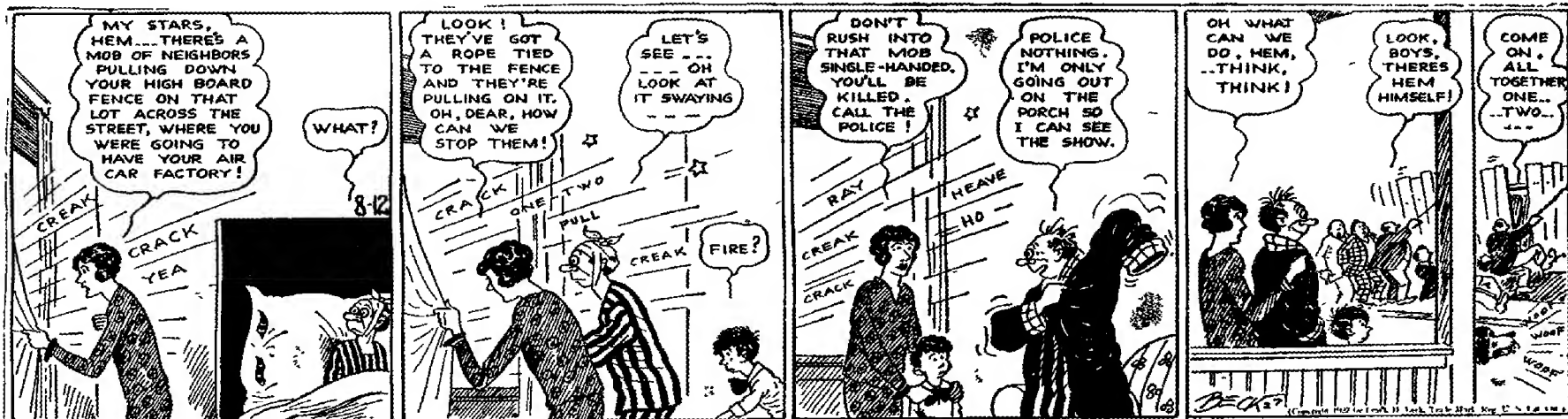
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August 12, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck

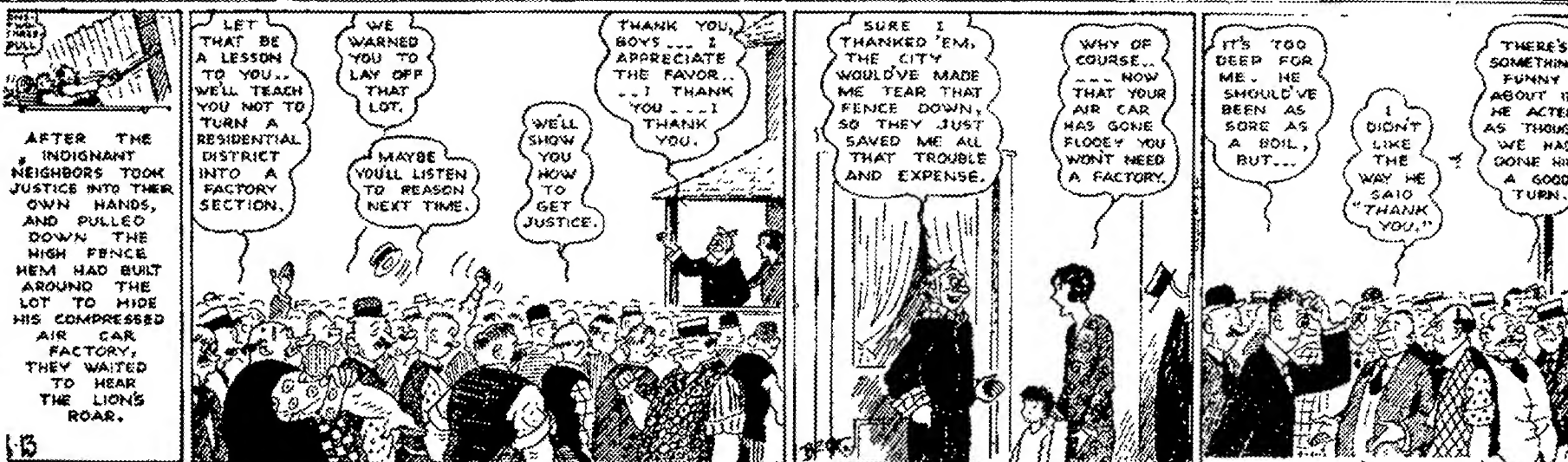


August 13, 1927
Decatur Herald

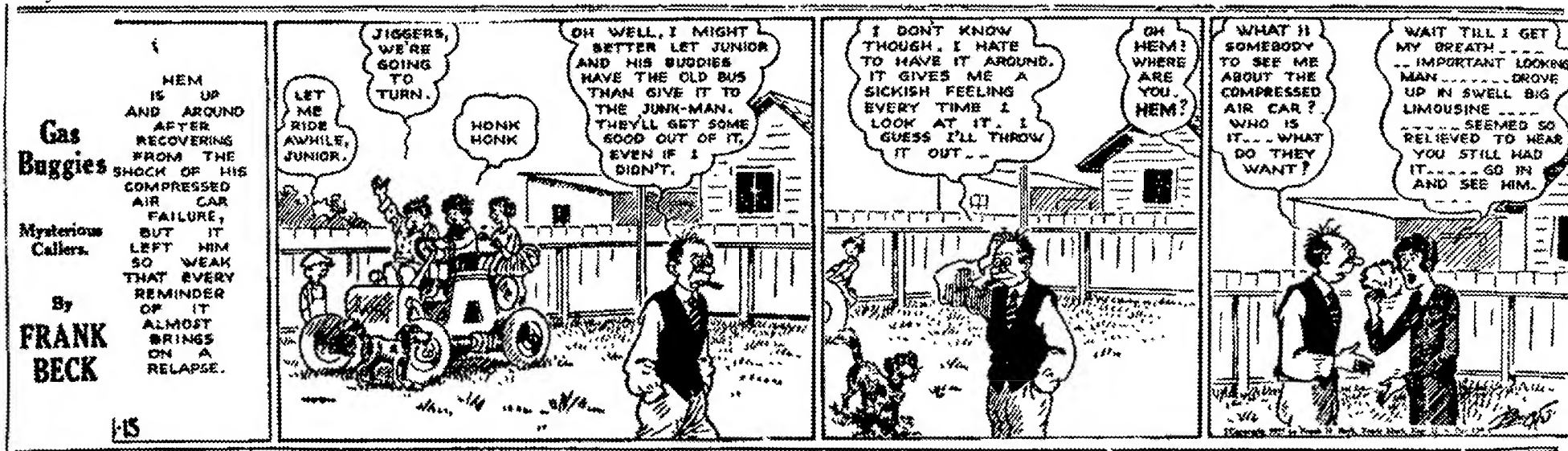
Gas Buggies

Thanks, Boys,

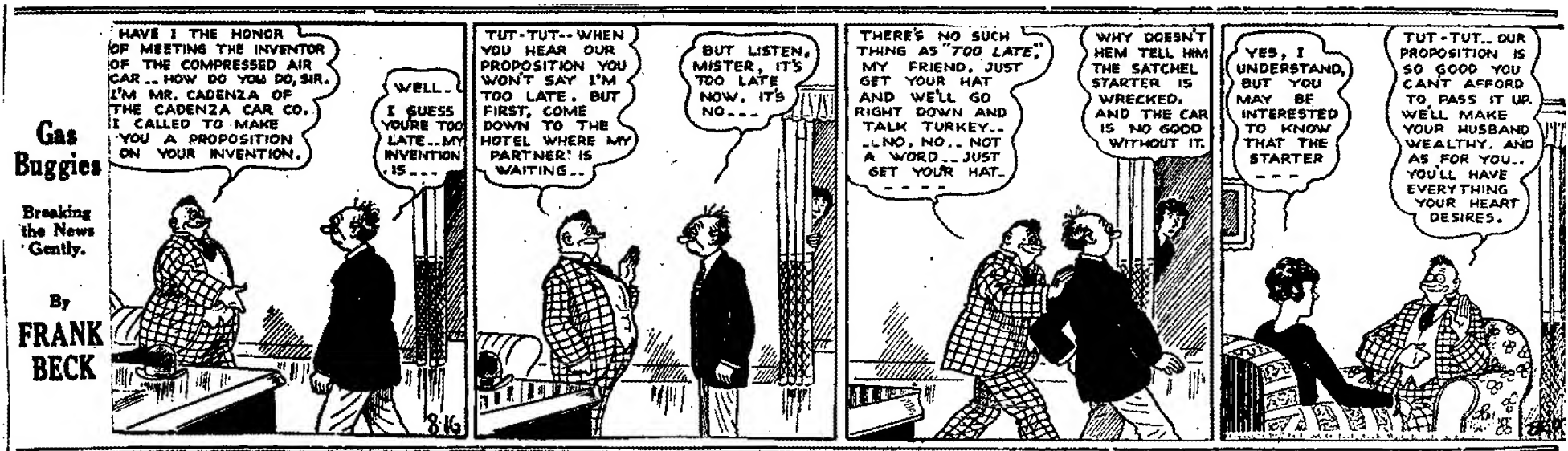
By FRANK BECK



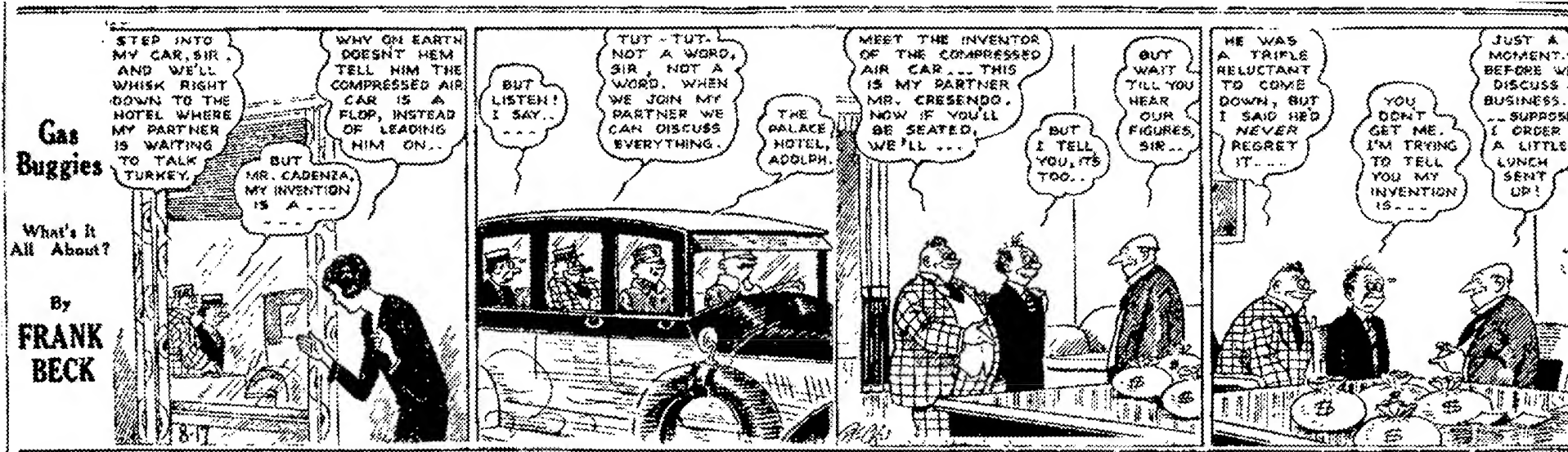
August 15, 1927
Daily Northwestern



August 16, 1927
Decatur Herald



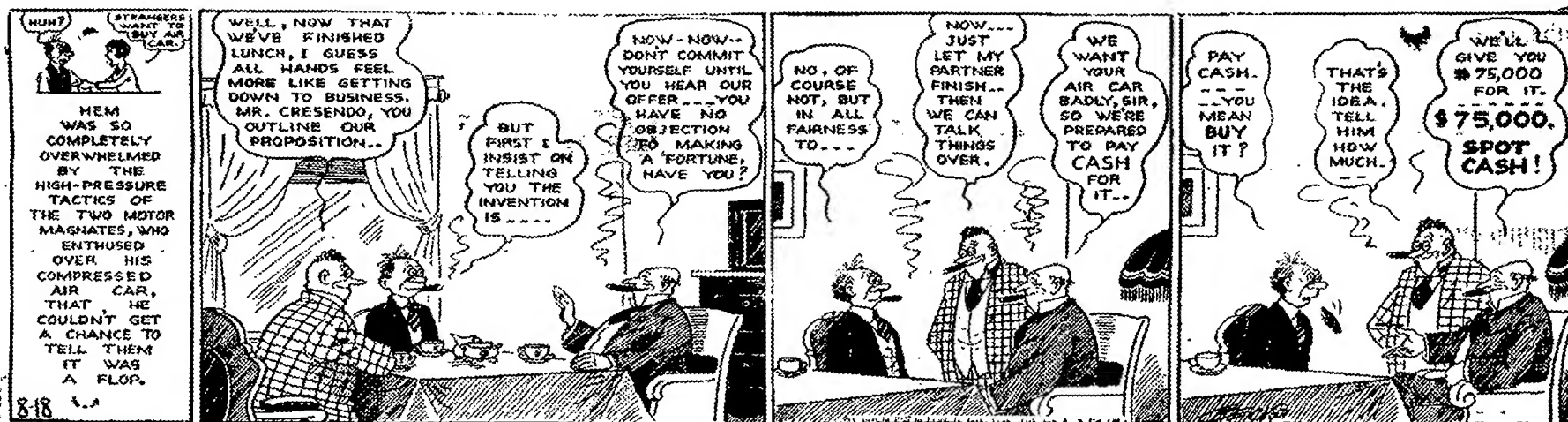
August 17, 1927
Decatur Herald



August 18, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



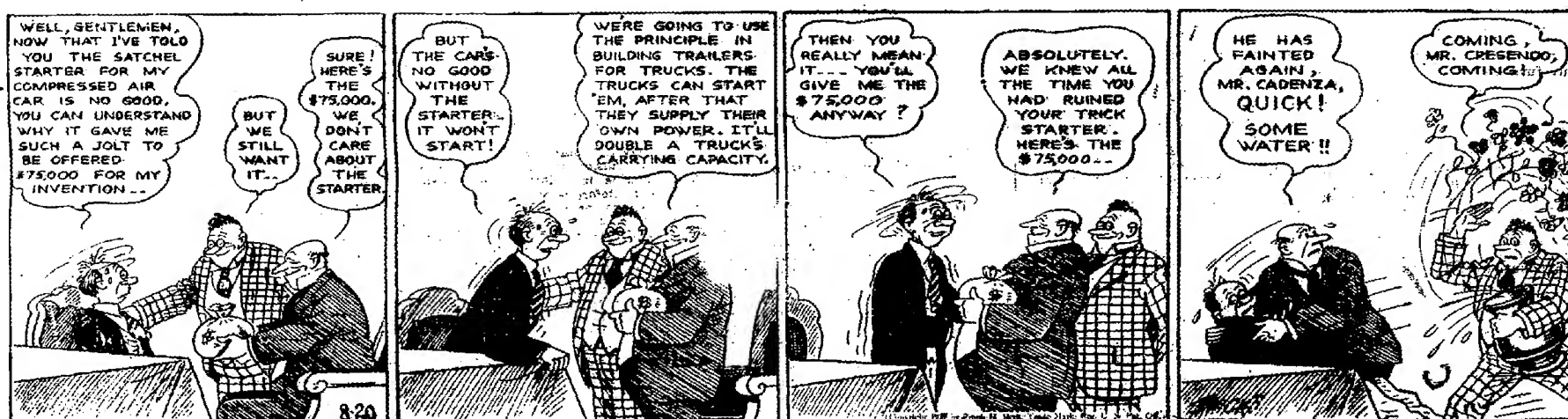
August 19, 1927
Decatur Herald



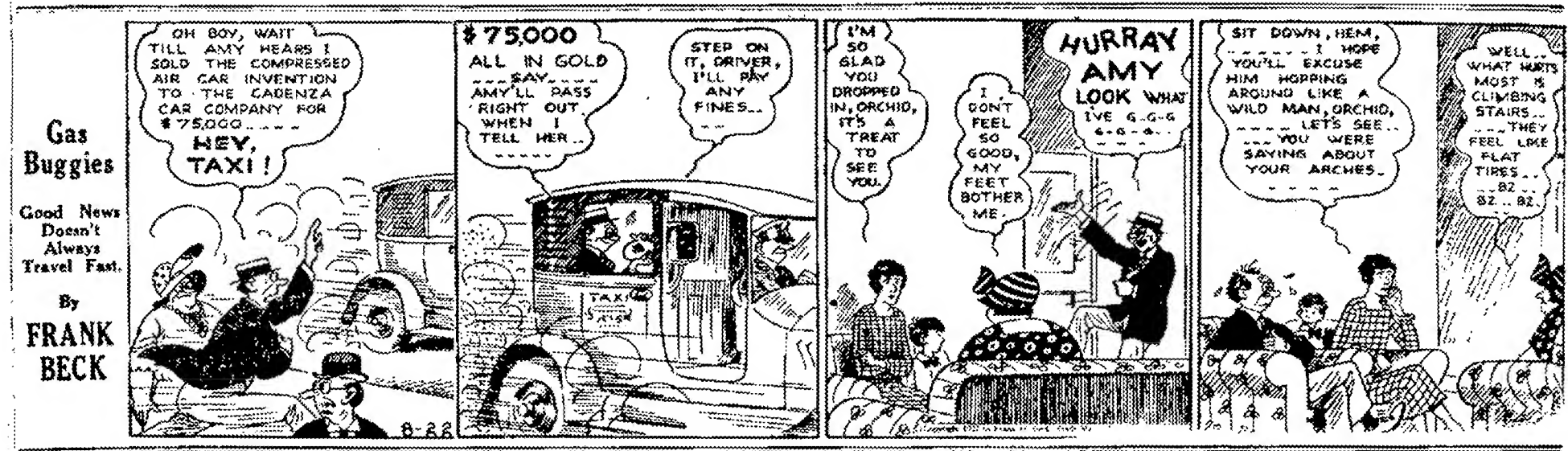
August 20, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



August 22, 1927
Decatur Herald



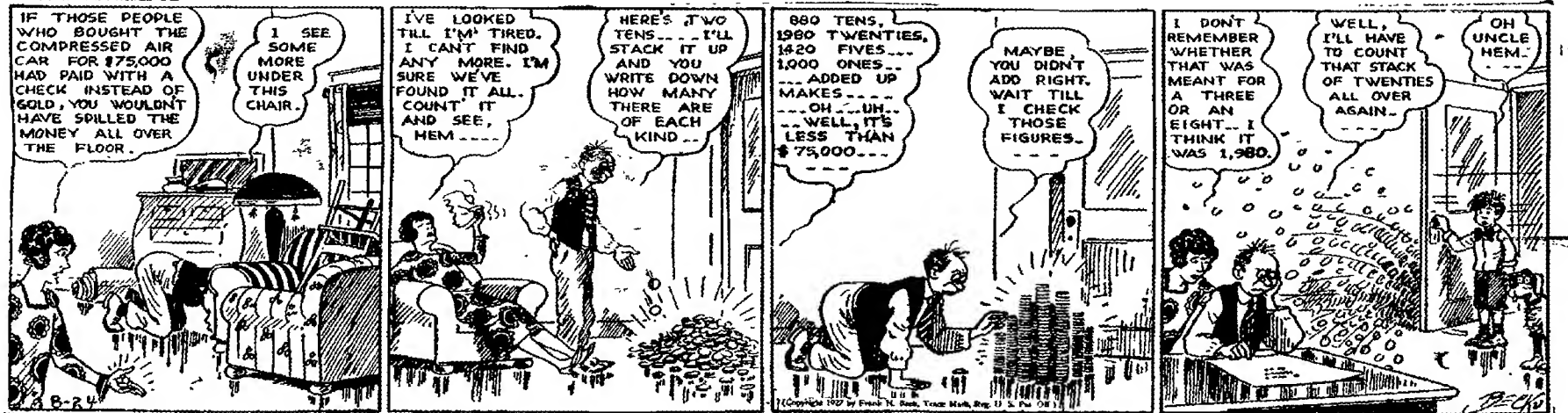
August 23, 1927
Warren Tribune



August 24, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

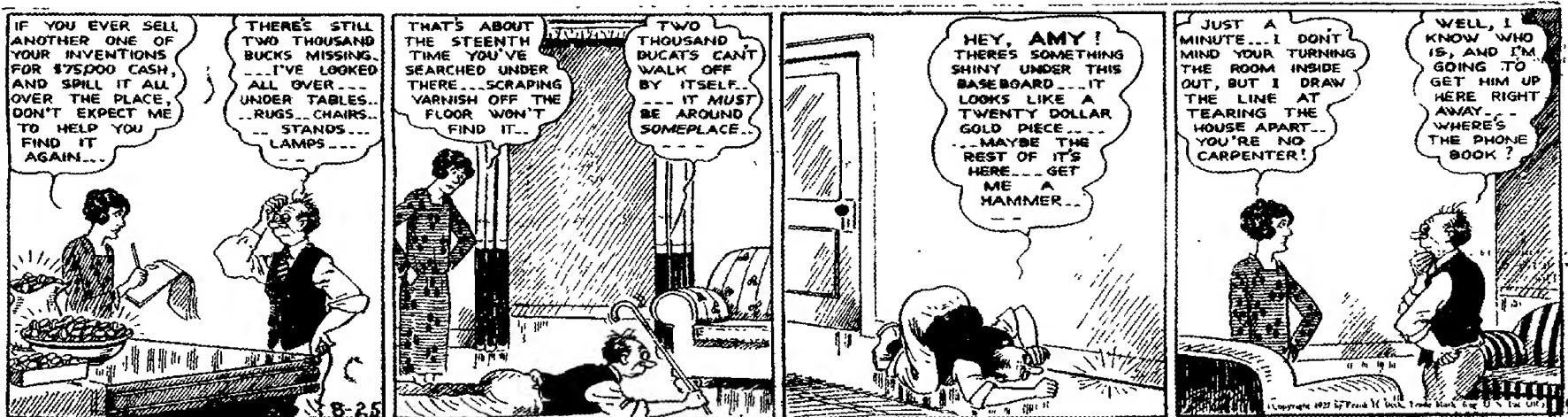
By Frank Beck



August 25, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

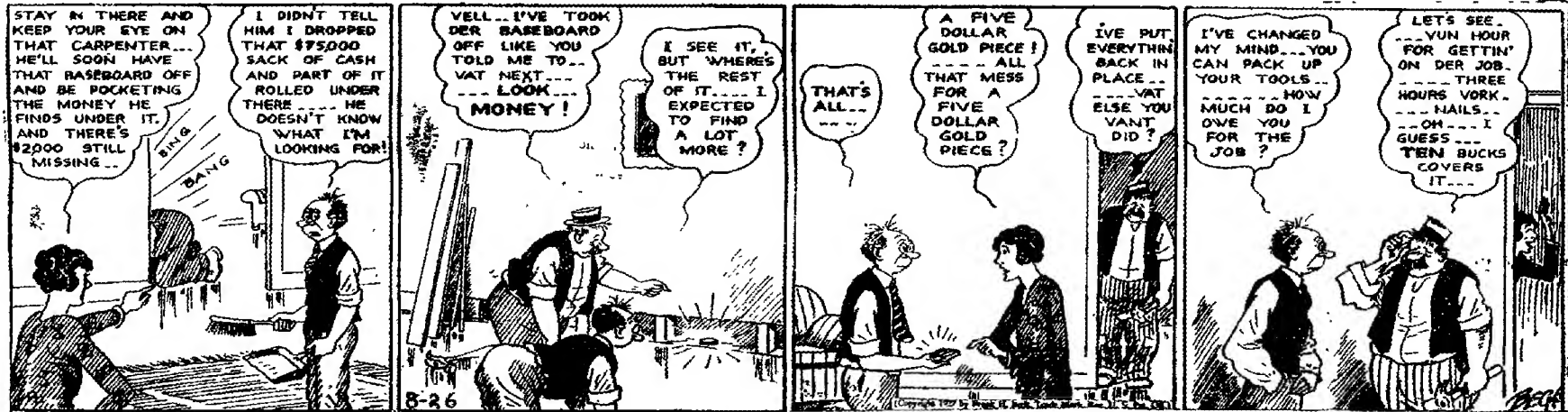
By Frank Beck



August 26, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

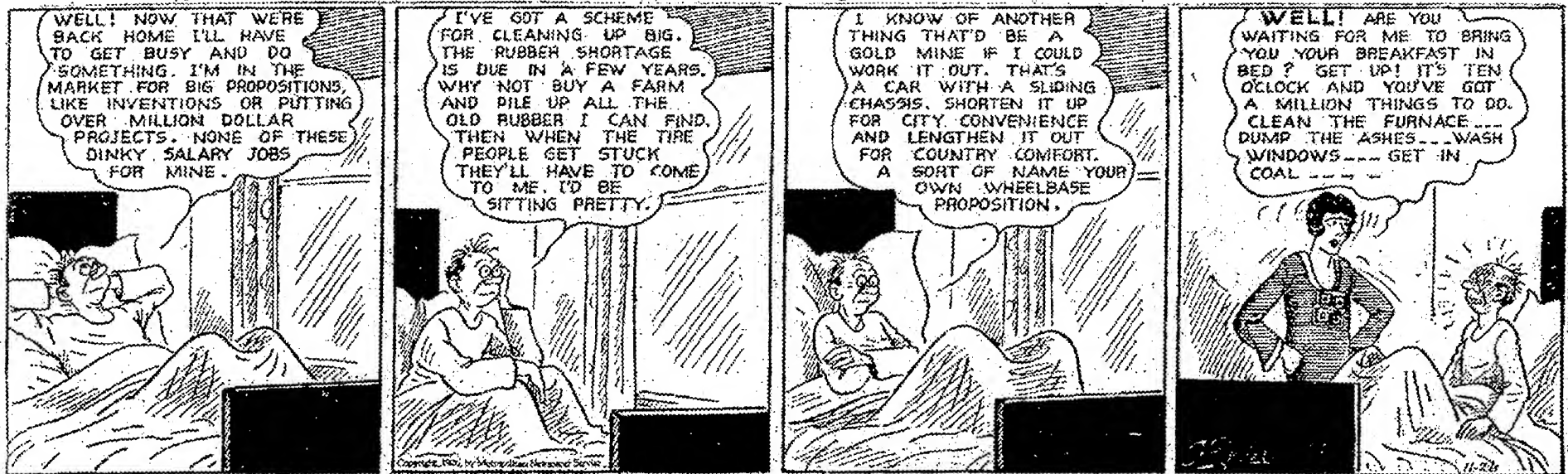
By Frank Beck



August 27, 1927
Daily Herald

GAS BUGGIES

By FRANK BECK

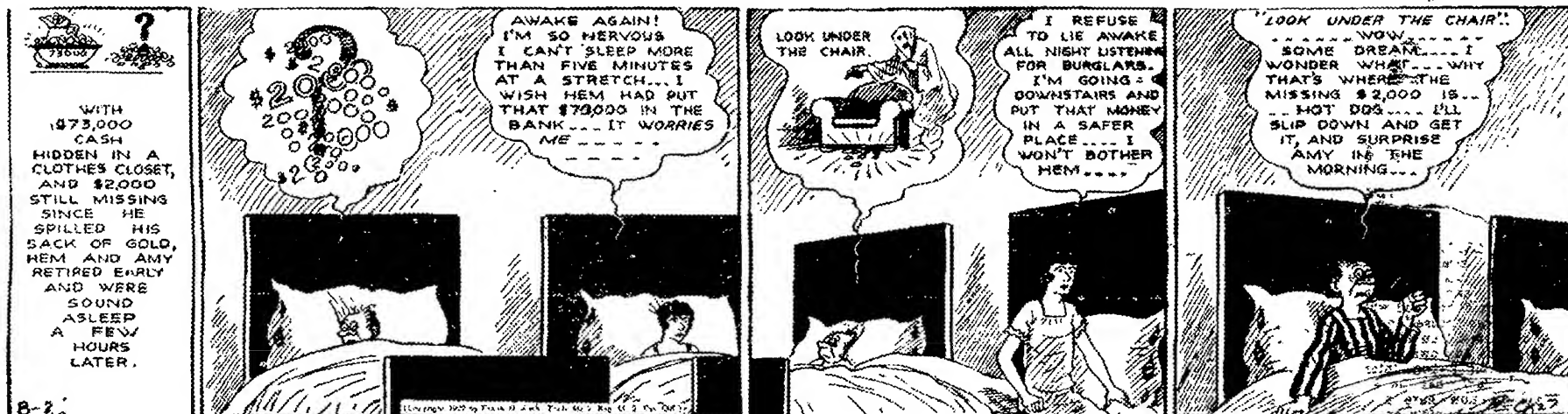


August 29, 1927

Warren Tribune

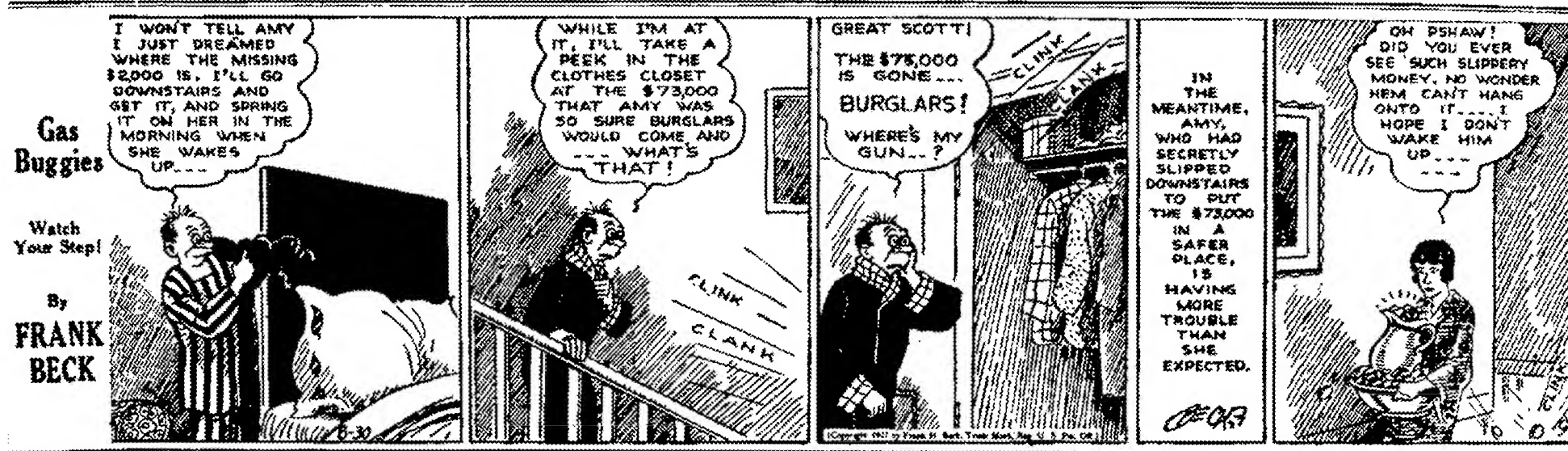
GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



August 30, 1927

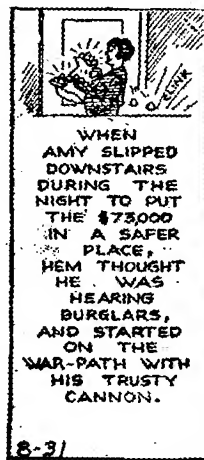
Decatur Herald



August 31, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck

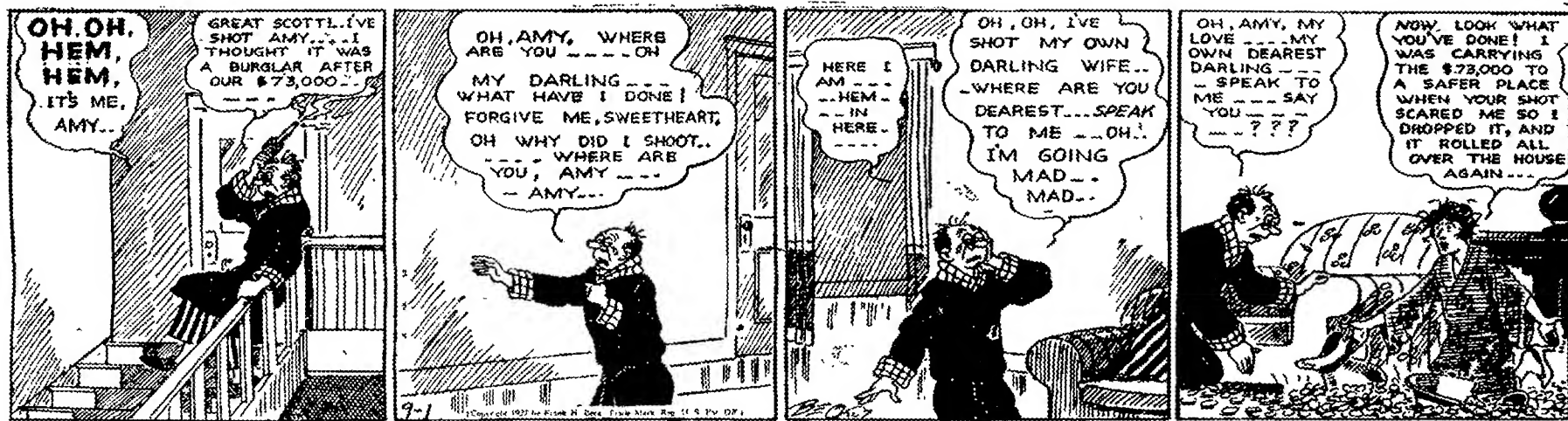


September 1, 1927

Warren Tribune

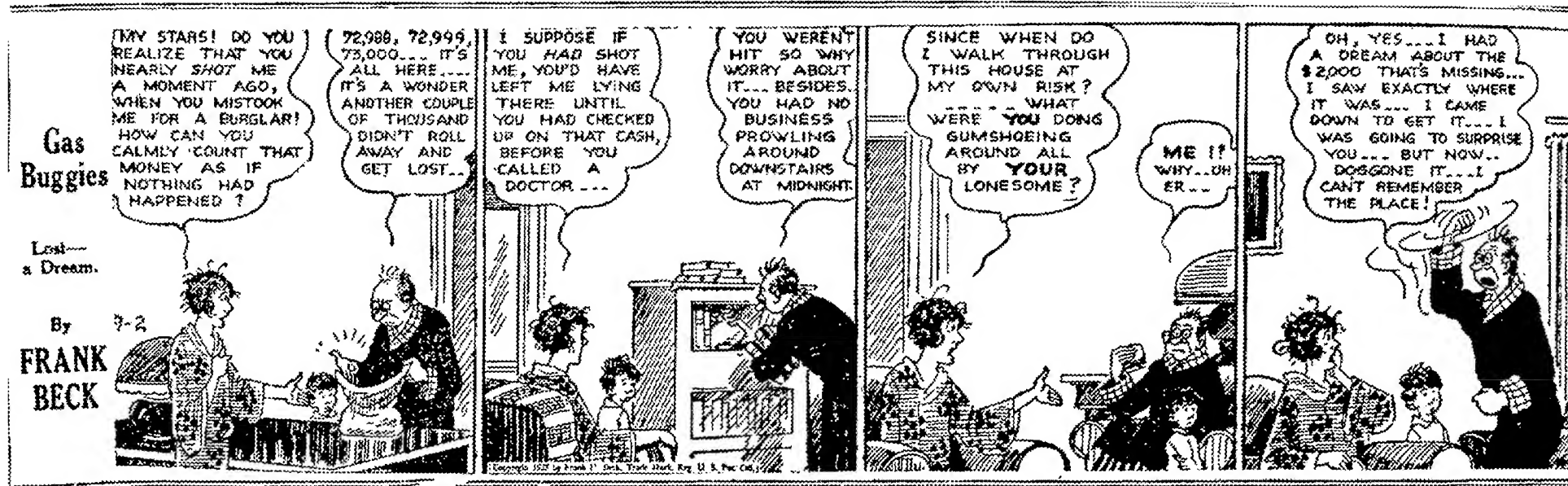
GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



September 2, 1927

Decatur Herald



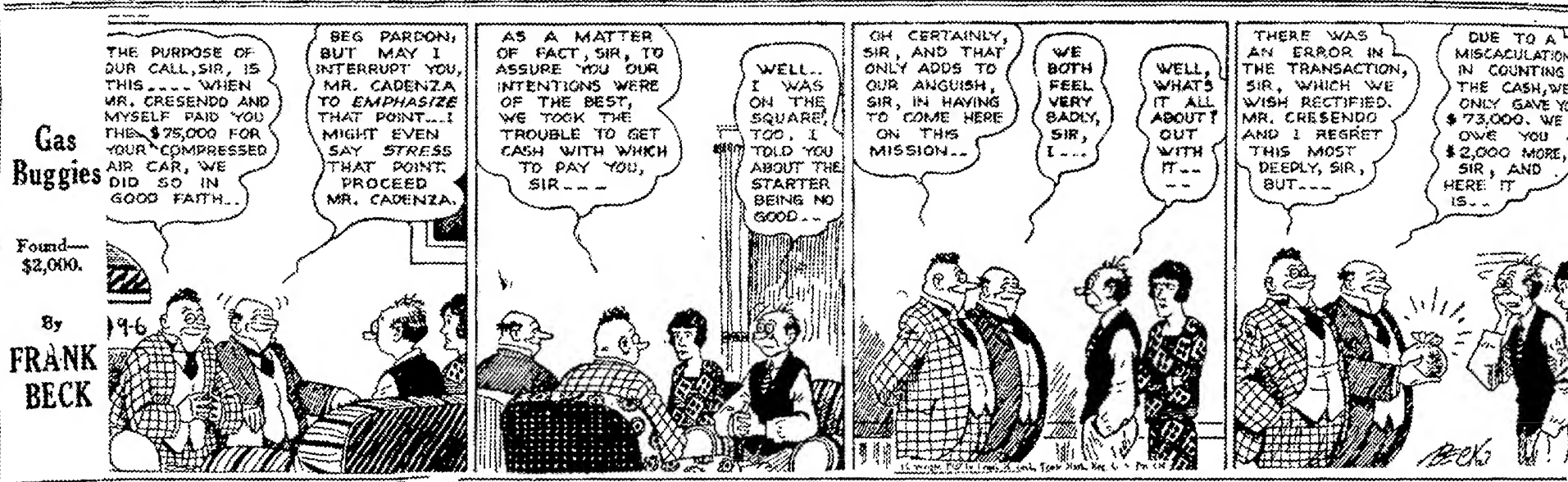
September 3, 1927
Warren Tribune



GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck

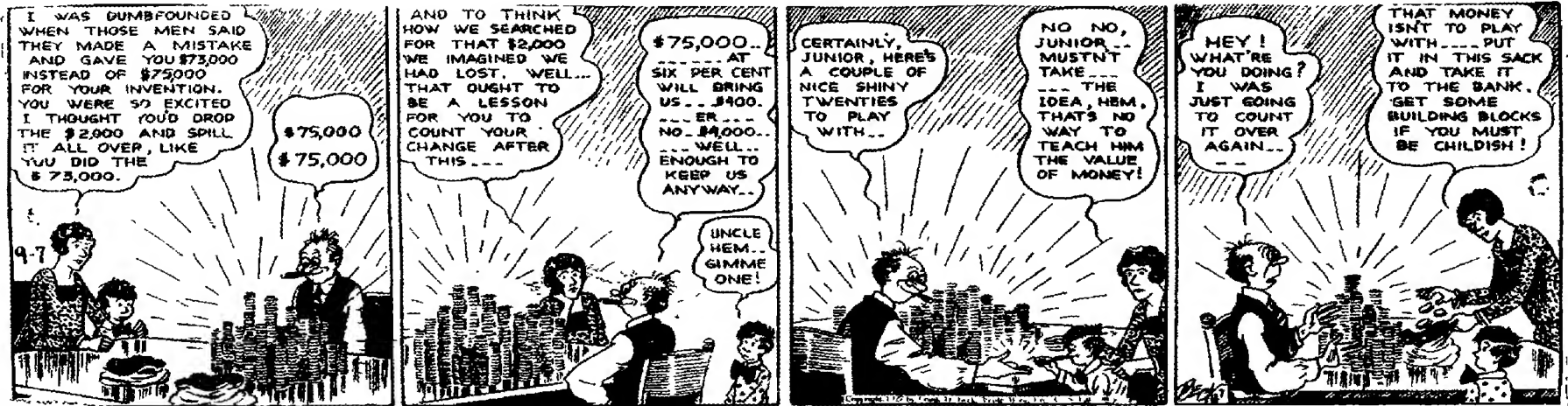
September 6, 1927
Decatur Herald



September 7, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

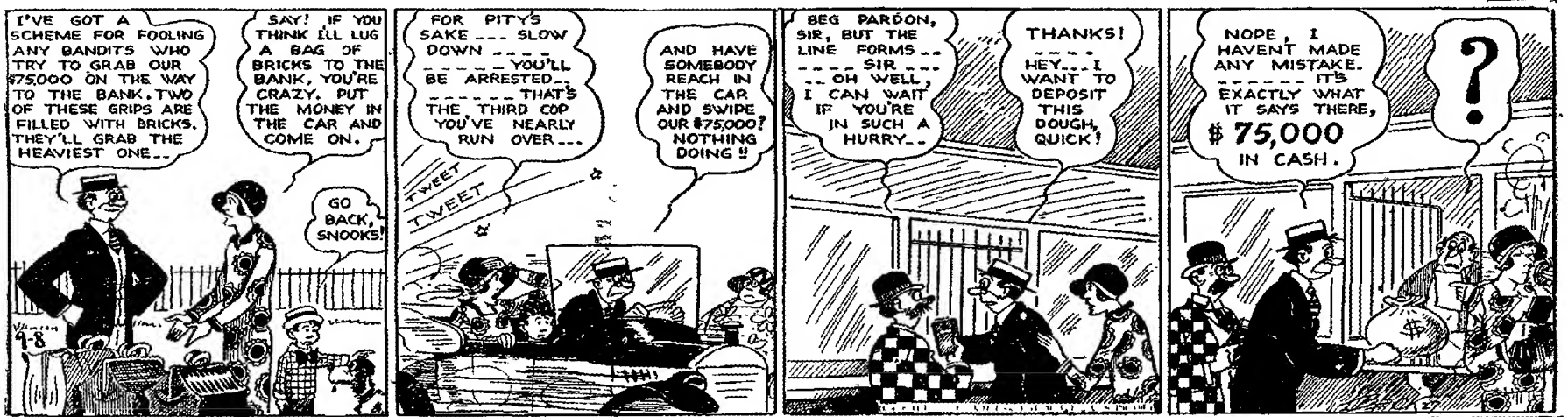
By Frank Beck



September 8, 1927
Warren Tribune

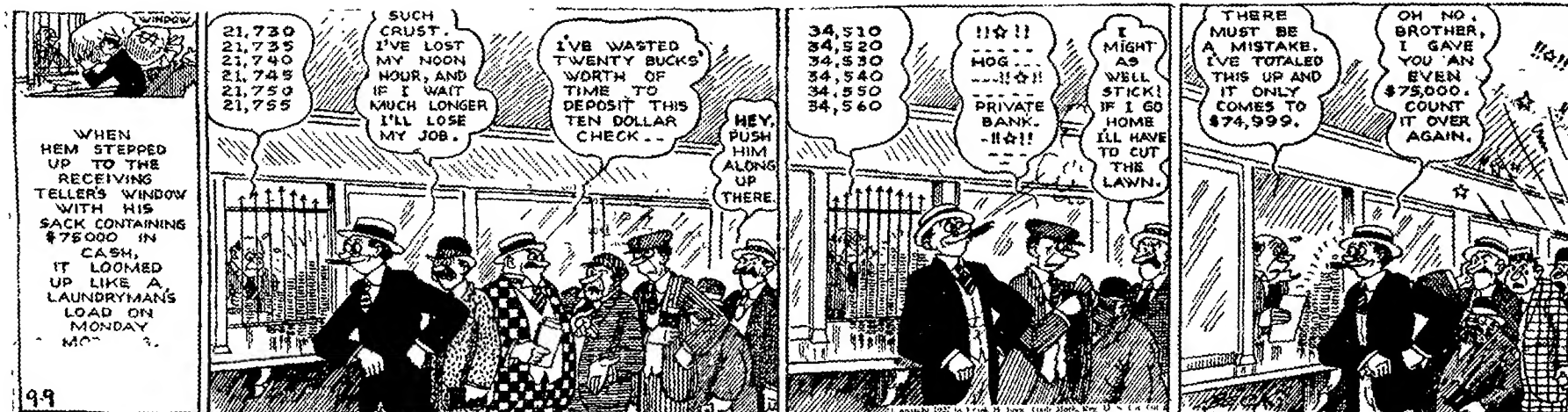
GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck

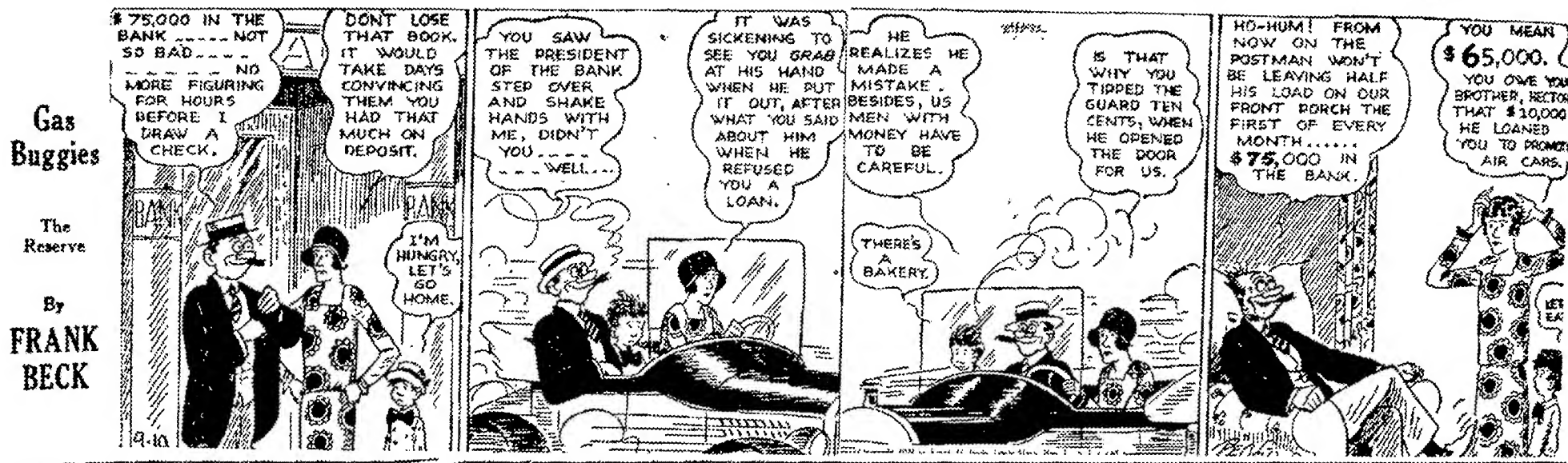


September 9, 1927
Warren Tribune
GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



September 10, 1927
Decatur Herald



September 12, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Not a Word —!

By
FRANK BECK

IN SPITE OF THE \$75,000 SAFELY STORED IN THE BANK, HEM AND AMY DECIDE TO LIVE MODESTLY, AND SAY NOTHING ABOUT THEIR MONEY.

9-12

Gas Buggies

Extra! Extra!

By
FRANK BECK

9-13

September 13, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Extra! Extra!

By
FRANK BECK

9-13

Gas Buggies

Extra! Extra!

By
FRANK BECK

9-13

September 14, 1927
Decatur Herald

Gas Buggies

Private Capital?

By
FRANK BECK



DESPITE HEM'S CAUTION, NEWS OF HIS \$75,000 SOON PERCOLATED THROUGHOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD, AS A RESULT OF THE HEATED DISCUSSION JUNIOR HAD WHILE BOASTING ABOUT HIS UNCLE TO BEANIE MANLEY

© 11

IMAGINE, MERTON MANLEY, \$75,000... IS THERE NO JUSTICE IN THIS WORLD... AND THEY SENT THAT BRAT, JUNIOR, AROUND TO BRAG ABOUT IT TO OUR BEANIE, OH THE AIRS THEY'LL PUT ON---

I'VE GOT AN IDEA. THEY'LL NEED A NEW CAR, SO I'LL TIP OFF ALL THE DEALERS. THEN WE WILL CUT IN ON A COMMISSION NO MATTER WHICH BUS HE BUYS.

NEETA TOLD ME HEM HAS \$75,000 IN THE BANK... AND YOU THE FINANCIAL WIZARD, CAN'T MEET THE PREMIUM ON YOUR INSURANCE POLICY.

OH, I'M NOT SO DUMB... LISTEN, I'LL PUT THIS UP TO THE COMPANY. IF THEY'LL MAKE MINE A PAID-UP POLICY, I'LL GIVE THEM THE NAME OF A PROSPECT!

YES, SIR, \$75,000. THERE, MARCUS BRUTUS, IS YOUR CHANCE. HEM CAN'T REFUSE TO BUY AMY A WASHING MACHINE NOW... GET YOUR BRIEFCASE AND SKIP RIGHT OVER---

I HAVE TO CALL UP FIRST. I'M A HIGH-CLASS SALESMAN I ONLY SELL BY APPOINTMENT! WHAT'S HIS NUMBER?



September 17, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



WHEN HEM'S DOORBELL WOKE HIM UP AT SEVEN A.M., HE HURRIED DOWNSTAIRS, AND FOUND THE SOLUTION TO ALL HIS MYSTERIOUS PHONE CALLS OF THE DAY BEFORE.

9-17

HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA... BUSTING INTO A MAN'S HOUSE... STAND BACK... STOP... AMY!

I'M AN AUTO SALESMAN. HEARD YOU WANTED A CAR.

I SELL THE WICKER WASHING MACHINE. NO SHIRT TOO SOILED BUT IT CAN BE BOILED

I PHONED ABOUT INSURANCE. YOU SAID TO COME UP---

MY STARS! IT SOUNDS LIKE A RIOT... WHAT ON... COMING, HEM.

NOW ABOUT THIS WASHING MACHINE TAKE A RIDE. HERE, WEAR MY HAT.

YOU SAID OVER THE PHONE YOU'D... AMY... OUR CAR.

DON'T FLIRT WITH THE FUTURE... YOUR WIFE... POOR HOUSE INSURANCE.

FROM ONE TO SIXTY MILES IN SIX SECONDS. THAT'S...

SHIRTS, SOCKS, SHEETS, ALL LOOK ALIKE TO--

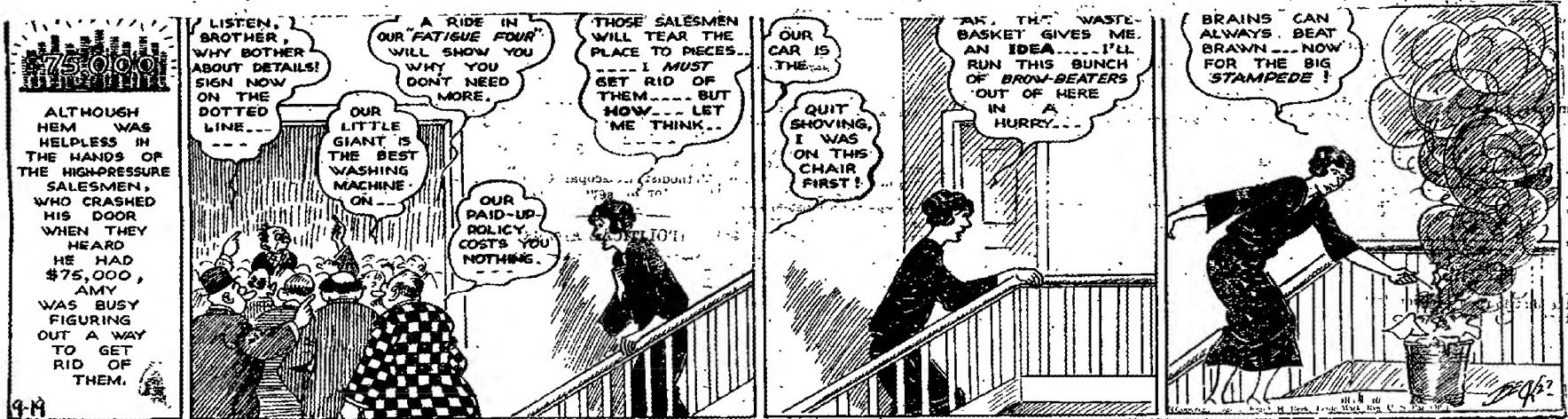
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September 19, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



September 20, 1927
Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



September 21, 1927

Warren Tribune

GAS BUGGIES

By Frank Beck



The further adventures of Hem and Amy can be found at <http://www.newspaperarchive.com>.